

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held November 26, 2013 in the Clearwater County Council Chambers in Rocky Mountain House.

CALL TO ORDER: The Meeting was called to order at 9:05 A.M. by Reeve Alexander with the following being present:

Reeve:	Pat Alexander
Councillors:	Earl Graham
	John Vandermeer
	Jim Duncan
	Theresa Laing
	Kyle Greenwood
	Curt Maki
Chief Administrative Officer:	Ron Leaf
Director, Public Works:	Marshall Morton
Recording Secretary:	Tracy Haight
Media:	Sarah Maetche
	Helge Nome
	Christine Heggart
	Trevor Duley
	Erik Hansen
	Kurt Magnus
	Mary Bugbee

AGENDA: Councillor Laing requested addition of Item G4 – Invitation from Nordegg Chamber of Commerce; Councillor Duncan requested addition of an In Camera – Land Item and Committee Reports; Reeve Alexander requested addition of a Committee Report; and Mr. Leaf requested Item J5 move to Item G5.

CURT MAKI:	That the November 26, 2013 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted as amended.
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430/13 CARRIED 7/0

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: 1. November 05, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes

JIM DUNCAN:	That the Minutes of the November 05, 2013 Regular Meeting be accepted.
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431/13 CARRIED 7/0

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES: 1. November 05, 2013 Public Hearing Minutes

JOHN VANDERMEER:	That the Minutes of the November 05, 2013 Public Hearing be accepted.
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432/13 CARRIED 7/0

PUBLIC WORKS: 1. Policy Review: “Snowplowing and Grading of Gravel Roads”

Rhonda Serhan joined the meeting.

Mr. Magnus presented the snow plow policy and noted Clearwater County is currently meeting standards as outlined in the policy. However, concerns with the speed of service; height of windrows on approaches and hamlet sidewalks; and snow around mailboxes have been received by the Public Works

Department from ratepayers and Council. Public Works are therefore requesting direction from Council on whether Council wishes to review the policy to determine if current standards are acceptable.

Mr. Magnus noted clearing snow from around individual/community mailboxes is the responsibility of the individual and/or community as confirmed by Canada Post.

Discussion followed on the effects of exceptional weather conditions and amount of snowfall on the speed of service and windrow height; effects of preliminary construction of roads on the quality of snow removal; public expectations; public education; improvements required on operator workmanship; and increased costs associated with a higher level of service.

Staff noted costs would increase substantially in order to provide snow removal from hamlets and increase the speed of service. Staff explained considerations during budget planning for purchasing additional equipment and hiring more staff and/or contractors would be required over a three-year period. Staff noted information on costs will be presented to Council during the 2014 budget discussions.

Garth Dymment, Matt Martinson, and Mike Haugen joined the meeting.

JOHN VANDERMEER: That Council accepts the Snowplowing and Grading of Gravel Roads policy as presented.

433/13 CARRIED 7/0

Ken Qually, Gerald Knott, and Tracy King joined the meeting. Rhonda Serhan, Erik Hansen, Kurt Magnus, and Marshall Morton left the meeting.

**AGRICULTURAL
SERVICES &
LANDCARE:**

1. Director's Update

Matt Martinson provided an update on Agricultural Services and Landcare programs and noted the following:

- The new Shelterbelt Program is to be delivered in the spring of 2014.
- Information sessions on weeds and weed notices will be offered to real estate agents in the coming month.
- Information sessions on the County Code and surface/ground water protection will be offered in Rocky Mountain House, Red Deer, and possibly Sundre.
- Plans for developing and implementing greater communication related to the County's brushing program are underway.

Mr. Martinson responded to questions from Council on the Shelterbelt Program and noted farm and acreage owners are eligible for the program, and staff will provide a price and species list to Council.

EARL GRAHAM: That Council accepts the information as presented.

434/13 CARRIED 7/0

Matt Martinson left the meeting.

**COMMUNITY
& PROTECTIVE
SERVICES:**

4. Delegation: Family and Community Support Services

Mike Haugen introduced Tracy King, Manager of Clearwater Regional Family and Community Support Services (FCSS).

Ms. King provided an overview on FCSS and the programs and support that is provided by the agency to residents in Clearwater County.

Ms. King noted several community projects including the ACE Community Dinner and Diversity Tree. Ms. King extended an invitation to a member of Council to address the public at the Diversity Tree event.

JIM DUNCAN: That Council accepts the information as presented.

435/13

CARRIED 7/0

Sandra Kay and Karen McCutcheon joined the meeting. Tracy King left the meeting.

5. Delegation: Rocky Museum – Rocky Mountain House Reunion Historical Society

Sandra Kay, Treasurer and Karen McCutcheon, Secretary of the Rocky Mountain House Reunion Historical Society presented information and a brief history on the Rocky Museum and noted some of the unique displays and events at the Museum.

Ms. Kay and Ms. McCutcheon noted future needs and plans for the museum that include the hiring of an Executive Director and increased office space. Ms. Kay stated the museum will experience a shortfall in funding due to a tenant moving out of the building and requested that Council budget to increase the grant to the Museum in the amount of \$15,000 annually.

Ms. Kay and Ms. McCutcheon responded to questions from Council on the Executive Director position, the reconfiguration of existing space, museum accreditation, volunteers, and fundraising activities.

THERESA LAING: That Council accepts the information as presented.

436/13

CARRIED 7/0

6. Rocky Organization for Animal Rescue (ROAR)

Mike Haugen introduced Linzi Risto and Kendra Reap from the Rocky Organization for Animal Rescue (ROAR).

Kendra Reap provided information on ROAR's activities and services and noted they are requesting Council to increase the animal control services budget by \$5,000 and allocate to ROAR. Ms. Risto provided statistics and financial statements that showed increased costs due to increased service and presented a petition, with 168 signatures, that asked county residents if a portion of county tax dollars should be allotted to assist ROAR in providing services.

Ms. Reap and Ms. Risto responded to questions from Council and discussion followed on ROAR's program, philosophy on animal control, and future plans.

Councillor Duncan requested copies of the petition for Council.

JIM DUNCAN: That Council accepts the information as presented.

437/13

CARRIED 7/0

Linzi Risto, Kendra Reap, Sandra Kay, Karen McCutcheon, Helge Nome, Garth Dymont, Ken Qually, and Gerald Knott left the meeting.

1. Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) Update

Trevor Duley provided a report regarding funding for post-flood reconstructive efforts from the Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) and noted to date, costs are currently at \$1.7 million, not \$1.6 million as stated in the agenda item. Further flood work projects are planned for construction in 2014.

Discussion followed on the discrepancies and inconsistencies in provincial funding between other municipalities, which were noted at the recent Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC) fall conference. Staff noted administration would follow up and continue to monitor this issue.

Discussion continued on bridges eligible for DRP funding. Staff noted some bridges are eligible for funding under different programs other than the DRP.

Council inquired on the status of funding for the Red Deer River Access Road. Staff responded funding is denied, however, this decision would be challenged.

CURT MAKI: That Council accepts the information as presented.

438/13

CARRIED 7/0

2. Alhambra Community Centre Grant Application

Trevor Duley presented a grant application for \$9,345.35 to fund capital upgrades at the Alhambra Community Centre.

Mike Haugen explained the application process and provided a history on the policy's formation and various reviews.

Mr. Haugen responded to questions from Council on the criteria for eligibility for funding and on transference of surplus funds to the general reserve.

JIM DUNCAN: That Council authorizes \$9,345.35 in capital grant funding for the Alhambra Community Centre.

439/13

CARRIED 7/0

3. Caroline HUB Committee Terms of Reference

JOHN VANDERMEER : That Council tables Item F3 Caroline HUB Committee Terms of Reference pending further information.

440/13

CARRIED 7/0

MUNICIPAL: 1. Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference

Ron Leaf requested direction from Council on their attendance at the 2014 Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) conference and noted the policy provides for the Reeve and two Councillors to attend.

Discussion followed on the value of attending; the amount of information gained on various governance models; and the general overview of issues that the sessions provide.

Staff noted the deadline for cancellation of hotel reservations without penalty is February 1.

Trevor Duley and Mike Haugen left the meeting.

JOHN VANDERMEER: That Council authorizes hotel reservations for three rooms and reviews conference attendance prior to February 1.

441/13 CARRIED 7/0

2. LGL Institute (Gord McIntosh) – Intermunicipal Planning Session

Ron Leaf provided information on the Intermunicipal Collaboration Committee's request to provide a training session on municipal governance and strategic planning for the Town, Village and County Council's.

Mr. Leaf stated a workshop offered by LGL Institute (Gordon McIntosh) has been scheduled for January 14, 2014 and administration recommends Council prepares for this meeting by reviewing the Clearwater County 2012-2014 Strategic Plan as well as the Stronger Together Agreement.

CURT MAKI: That Council schedules a preparation session on January 7 for the January 14 LGL Institute Intermunicipal Planning Session.

442/13 CARRIED 7/0

3. December/January Regular Council Meeting Dates

Ron Leaf stated Council's second meeting in December is scheduled for December 24, however it has been the practice of past Council's to cancel the second meeting, and recommends Council do so again.

JIM DUNCAN: That Council cancels the December 24 Regular Council Meeting and directs staff to advertise the change.

443/13 CARRIED 7/0

Mr. Leaf stated Council's January 14 meeting date conflicts with the LGL Institute Intermunicipal Planning Session and recommends Council amends this meeting date to January 13 or January 15.

Trevor Duley and Mike Haugen joined the meeting.

JOHN VANDERMEER: That Council amends the January 14 Regular Council Meeting to January 13 and directs staff to advertise the change.

444/13 CARRIED 7/0

4. Invitation from Nordegg Chamber of Commerce

Councillor Laing stated she has received an invitation from the Nordegg Chamber of Commerce to attend a general meeting and requests authorization from Council to attend.

JOHN VANDERMEER: That Council authorizes Councillor Laing to attend the Nordegg Chamber of Commerce meeting on December 3.

445/13

CARRIED 7/0

EARL GRAHAM: That the meeting recess for lunch at 11:57 A.M.

446/13

CARRIED 7/0

The Meeting reconvened at 1:12 P.M. with the same people present as noted at the beginning of the meeting excluding Marshall Morton, Helge Nome, Sarah Maetche, Christine Heggart, Erik Hansen, Kurt Magnus, Mary Bugbee, and including Rhonda Serhan, Mike Haugen and Matt Martinson.

5. Clearwater County Operating Budget vs Actual Reporting as at October 31, 2013

Rhonda Serhan stated the first installment from the Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) funding has been received and will be reflected in the November report.

Ms. Serhan noted the water and sewer line is over budget due to the water line leak at Nordegg that occurred in the spring. The ASB AESA line is over budget due to the "Sasquatch Project", however this project is industry funded and revenue received specifically for this project does not appear on this report.

Ms. Serhan noted funds for the Rocky Wastewater Facility are coming from a reserve transfer.

Mr. Leaf noted revenue for penalties are not reflective of ratepayers having difficulties paying their taxes as this is due to an oil company missing the tax payment deadline.

Discussion followed on the tax payment due date amended from December 15 to September 15 and ratepayers that have outstanding payments.

KYLE GREENWOOD: That Council accepts the information as presented.

447/13

CARRIED 7/0

Matt Martinson and Rhonda Serhan left the meeting.

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

Councillor Jim Duncan provided reports on the FCSS and ACE Committees.

Reeve Alexander referred to Ms. King's request for councillor attendance at the Diversity Tree event. Councillor Duncan noted he will be in attendance and will speak on behalf of Council.

Councillor Curt Maki and Reeve Alexander provided information and a general overview of events at the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association conference that they attended.

INFORMATION: 1. Information Items

EARL GRAHAM: That the CAO's Report, Public Works
Director's Report, Councillor
Remuneration, and Accounts Payable
Listing, is accepted as information.

448/13 CARRIED 7/0

IN CAMERA: 1. In Camera

JOHN VANDERMEER: That Council meets as a Committee of the
Whole to discuss DRAFT – Village of
Caroline Recreation Agreements at 1:46
P.M.

449/13 CARRIED 7/0

JOHN VANDERMEER: That the meeting reverts to an Open
Meeting at 2:46 P.M.

450/13 CARRIED 7/0

Councillor John Vandermeer declared a conflict of interest with the In Camera legal issue and
excused himself from the meeting.

Councillor Vandermeer and Tracy Haight left the meeting.

CURT MAKI: That Council meets as a Committee of the
Whole to discuss a legal issue at 2:47 P.M.

451/13 CARRIED 7/0

CURT MAKI: That the meeting reverts to an Open
Meeting at 3:32 P.M.

452/13 CARRIED 7/0

**ADJOURNMENT:
3:33 P.M.**

CURT MAKI: That the Meeting adjourns.

453/13 CARRIED 7/0

REEVE

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER