

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held January 8, 2019, in the Clearwater County Council Chambers in Rocky Mountain House.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Reeve Duncan with the following being present:

Reeve  
Councillors

Jim Duncan  
John Vandermeer  
Cammie Laird  
Daryl Lougheed  
Tim Hoven  
Michelle Swanson  
Theresa Laing

**Staff:**

Chief Administrative Officer  
Recording Secretary  
Director, Corporate Services  
Director, Agriculture & Community  
Services  
Communications Coordinator  
Director, Public Works Operations  
Director, Public Works Infrastructure  
Economic Development Officer  
Heritage and West Country Coordinator

Rick Emmons  
Tracy Haight  
Murray Hagan

Matt Martinson  
Djurdjica Tutic  
Kurt Magnus  
Erik Hansen  
Jerry Pratt  
Amanda Rodriguez

**Media:**

The Mountaineer  
B94

Diane Spoor  
Kassandra Hornsby  
Adam Ophus

**Delegates:**

Clearwater Regional Family  
and Community Support Services

Andrea Vassallo, Manager

Wild Rose School Division

Brad Volkman, Superintendent  
Mike Lundstrom, Director Facilities  
Julie Andrews, Trustee  
Russ Hickman, Board Chair

Ahlstrom Air Ltd.

Monica Ahlstrom, Vice President,  
Operations  
Kyle Wadden, Manager  
Operations

Missing Link Internet

Andrew Van Dirstein  
Craig Bondy  
Phil Swanson

**AGENDA  
APPROVAL:**

**COUNCILLOR LOUGHEED:**

That the January 8, 2019 Regular Meeting  
Agenda is adopted as circulated.

**001/19**

**CARRIED 7/0**

**CONFIRMATION  
OF MINUTES:**

**1. December 10, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes**

COUNCILLOR SWANSON: That the Minutes of the December 10, 2018, Special Meeting are adopted as circulated.

002/19

CARRIED 7/0

**2. December 11, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes**

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That the Minutes of the December 11, 2018, Regular Meeting are adopted as circulated.

003/19

CARRIED 7/0

**3. December 17, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes**

COUNCILLOR LAIRD: That the Minutes of the December 17, 2018, Special Meeting are adopted as circulated.

004/19

CARRIED 7/0

**DELEGATIONS:**

**1. Clearwater Regional Family & Community Support Services**

A. Vassallo gave a Power Point presentation, 'Clearwater Regional Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)' with information on programs, events, and activities that are funded through FCSS.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council receives the Clearwater Regional Family and Community Support Services Delegate's information as presented.

005/19

CARRIED 7/0

**2. Wild Rose School Division**

B. Volkman gave a Power Point presentation, 'Wild Rose School Division (WRSD) Corridor Schools Capital Plan' with information on WRSD's proposal to Alberta Education for a new school in Leslieville and modernization of the school in Condor.

M. Lundstrom reviewed examples of potential projects to expand the schools into multi-purpose facilities. These projects would require partnerships for capital and operating costs as well as joint-use agreements. There is benefit to securing partnerships with long-term operational funding strategies, prior to

the design process, to meet Alberta Education's timelines should WRSD's proposal be accepted.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council receives Wild Rose School Division Delegate's information as presented.

006/19

CARRIED 7/0

**3. Ahlstrom Air Ltd.**

M. Ahlstrom and K. Wadden expressed their concerns with the impact Alberta Environment and Parks' *Bighorn Country Proposal* will have on Ahlstrom Air Ltd.'s business operations within the area should it be approved as presented.

M. Ahlstrom noted the current 'Provincial Parks Act' restricts aircraft operation in a park or recreation area except where allowed to do so by Ministerial order and/or permit. At this time, it is unclear if Ahlstrom Air will be granted an order and/or timely receipt of permits to continue operating in the area. If unable to operate within the proposed parks, Ahlstrom Air anticipates significant revenue losses.

M. Ahlstrom also noted concerns with the Province's consultation process and absence of clear regulations and policies for the proposal.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council receives Ahlstrom Air Ltd. Delegate's information as presented.

007/19

CARRIED 7/0

**RECESS:** Reeve Duncan recessed the meeting at 10:22 am.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Reeve Duncan called the meeting to order at 10:31 am with the following people present: Councillors Vandermeer, Laird, Loughheed, Laing, Hoven and Swanson; R. Emmons, M. Hagan, D. Tutic, T. Haight, M. Ahlstrom, K. Wadden, A. Van Dirstein, C. Bondy, P. Swanson, D. Spoor, K. Hornsby, A. Opus.

**4. Missing Link Internet**

A. Van Dirstein, C. Bondy and P. Swanson explained Missing Link Internet's company history, current operations and relationships with other internet service business entities.

A. Van Dirstein expressed his concerns with the impact of Council's decision-making process for a rural broadband infrastructure plan on local internet service investment and growth within the County. He also noted his concerns with lack of opportunity for Missing Link Internet to provide input into plan development.

A. Van Dirstein suggested a 75/25 municipal grant funding concept for encouraging investment by local service providers and starting with a smaller infrastructure plan to speed up development. He also suggested that Council consider challenges with obtaining spectrum in plan development.

COUNCILLOR LOUGHEED: That Council receives Missing Link Internet Delegation's information as presented.

008/19

CARRIED 7/0

**CLOSED SESSION:**

COUNCILLOR HOVEN: That Council approves meeting as a Committee of the Whole, to discuss Item J1. Delegation: Ahlstrom Air Ltd. Third Party Interest and, J2. Delegation: Missing Link Internet Third Party Interest, in a closed session, in accordance with Section 197(2) of the Municipal Government Act; and Section 16 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act at 10:49 am

009/19

CARRIED 7/0

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the Municipal Government Act, Monica Ahlstrom, Vice President Operations, and Kyle Wadden, Operations Manager were in attendance in the closed session discussion with respect to J1. Delegation: Ahlstrom Air Ltd. – Third Party Interest.

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the Municipal Government Act, the following members of Administration were in attendance in the closed session discussion with respect to J1. Delegation: Ahlstrom Air Ltd. – Third Party Interest.

R. Emmons (Advise) M. Hagan (Advice), E. Hansen (Advice), A. Rodriguez, (Advice) K. McCrae, J. Pratt, D. Tutic and T. Haight (Clerk).

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the Municipal Government Act, Andrew Van Dirstein, Craig Bondy, and Phil Swanson, representatives of Missing Link Internet, were in attendance in the closed session discussion with respect to J2. Delegation: Missing Link Internet. – Third Party Interest.

Pursuant to Section 197(6) of the Municipal Government Act, the following members of Administration were in attendance in the closed session discussion with respect to J2. Delegation: Missing Link Internet – Third Party Interest.

R. Emmons (Advise) M. Hagan (Advice), E. Hansen (Advice), C. McDonald (Advice) and T. Haight (Clerk).

COUNCILLOR LAING: That the meeting reverts to an Open Session at 12:03 pm

010/19

CARRIED 7/0

**RECESS:**

Reeve Duncan recessed the meeting at 12:03 pm.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Reeve Duncan called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm with the following people present: Councillors Vandermeer, Laird, Lougheed, Laing, Hoven and

Swanson; R. Emmons, M. Hagan, D. Spoor, T. Haight, D. Tutic, K. Magnus, J. Pratt and Devin Drozdz.

**PLANNING &  
DEVELOPMENT:**

**1. Visitor & Information Centre Agreement**

Administration reviewed the Visitor and Information Centre Agreement to determine if the agreement is consistent with required obligations for the management and operation of services by the Chamber of Commerce for Town of Rocky Mountain House and Clearwater County.

Both Town of Rocky Mountain House and Clearwater County Administration recommend that the agreement is replaced with a contract service agreement, overseen by Administration, that follows objectives and budgetary items recommended in the Regional Tourism Strategy.

COUNCILLOR SWANSON: That Council authorizes Administration to create a contract service agreement for the management and operation of the Visitor Information Centre by the Chamber of Commerce and that the agreement follows the objectives set out in the Regional Tourism Strategy.

011/19

CARRIED 7/0

**PUBLIC WORKS:**

**1. Town of Rocky Mountain House Lagoon Summary Report December 2018**

The Town of Rocky Mountain House submitted the 'Lagoon Summary Report – December 2018' for review, as per the agreement between the Town and Clearwater County. The report summarizes lagoon operations, compliance, usage and capacity from September - November 2018, confirms the reserve fund for capital improvements is \$600,000.00 as of 2017 year-end and, confirms the Town has not received any non-compliance notices.

COUNCILLOR HOVEN: That Council receives the Town of Rocky Mountain House Lagoon Summary Report December 2018 for information as presented.

012/19

CARRIED 7/0

**CORPORATE  
SERVICES:**

**1. Deferral of Pre-receivership Tax Arrears**

As per legal counsel, contradictions between the bankruptcy and insolvency legislation and the Municipal Government Act present challenges for municipalities in the collection of pre and post-receivership tax debt from corporations in receivership.

To overcome these challenges, legal counsel advises that Council pass a resolution, as authorized by Section 347 of the Municipal Government Act, to defer 'pre-receivership tax until the earlier of payment of all post-receivership tax or disposition of the property that is subject to the tax assessment.'

COUNCILLOR LAIRD:

That Council directs Administration, as authorized by Section 347(1)(c) of the Municipal Government Act, upon written request from a Receiver, to defer all pre-receivership tax arrears and accrued penalties owing for pre-receivership tax arrears in situations where corporations have gone into receivership, until the earlier payment of all post-receivership taxes or the disposition of the property that is subject to the tax assessment.

013/19

CARRIED 7/0

**2. Council, Board and Committee Remuneration Policy Update**

Remuneration rates for Reeve, Councillor, and Board/Committee members in the 'Council, Board and Committee Remuneration' policy were revised to reflect the 2% market adjustment approved by Council in the 2019 operating budget.

COUNCILLOR SWANSON:

That Council approves the revised Council, Board and Committee Remuneration policy effective January 1, 2019.

014/19

CARRIED 7/0

MUNICIPAL:

**1. Spring 2019 Central Rural Municipalities of Alberta (CRMA) Meeting**

As directed by Council, Administration drafted a resolution requesting the Government of Canada to consider reinstating the municipal officer expense allowance. The resolution is to be submitted for review and approval by the Central Rural Municipalities of Alberta – District 2 membership at the Spring 2019 meeting on February 1.

COUNCILLOR SWANSON:

That Council approves the draft 'Reinstatement of the Municipal Officer Expense Allowance' as presented for consideration at the Spring 2019 Central rural Municipalities of Alberta meeting.

015/19

CARRIED 5/2

**INFORMATION:**

**1. CAO's Report**

Discussion took place on the January 8, 2019 CAO's Report as circulated.

COUNCILLOR SWANSON: That Council authorizes Councillors' attendance at the Municipal Law Seminars on February 7, 14, 15 and 22, 2019.

**016/19**

CARRIED 7/0

**2. Public Works Report**

Discussion took place on the January 8, 2019, Public Works Report, as circulated.

**3. Councillor Verbal Reports**

Councillor Swanson reported that she is unable to attend the Red Deer River Municipal User Group Annual General Meeting due to scheduling conflicts.

COUNCILLOR SWANSON: That Council authorizes an alternate Councillor to attend the Red Deer River Municipal User Group Annual General Meeting on January 17, 2019.

**017/19**

CARRIED 7/0

Councillor Laird reported on her work with the Alberta Critical Incident Advisory Council.

Reeve Duncan reported on the previous and upcoming Rocky Regional Solid Waste Authority Committee meeting.

Councillor Laing reported that she sent a letter to the Nordegg Community Association informing them of actions taken by Council to obtain information on the Bighorn Country Proposal.

Discussion took place on feedback from ratepayers on the proposal and how Council should respond based on Council's and ratepayers' concerns.

COUNCILLOR LAIRD: That Council drafts a response to Minister Phillips outlining rationale for Council's position of non-support for the Bighorn Country Proposal at this time; and that Council reviews the draft letter at the January 22, 2019 Regular Meeting.

**018/19**

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR LOUGHEED:

That Council receives the  
CAO's Report, Public Works Report,  
Accounts Payable, Councillor Verbal  
Reports, and Councillors' Remuneration  
for information as presented.

019/19

CARRIED 7/0

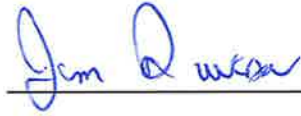
ADJOURNMENT:  
3:59 pm

COUNCILLOR SWANSON:

That the Meeting adjourns.

020/19

CARRIED 7/0



REEVE

  
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER