

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held September 13th, 2011 in the County Office at Rocky Mountain House.

CALL TO ORDER: The Meeting was called to order at 9:01 A.M. by Deputy Reeve Graham with the following being present:

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| Councillors: | Earl Graham John Vandermeer Jim Duncan Robert Bryant Dick Wymenga Case Korver |
| Municipal Manager: | Ron Leaf |
| Public Works Assistant Manager: | Marshall Morton |
| Recording Secretary: | Christine Heggart |
| IT: | Darrell Philip |
| Corporate Services Manager: | Murray Hagan |
| Mountaineer: | Jessica Jones Bob Johnston |

AGENDA **Addition: F7 – South East Recreation Ground Tender**
APPROVAL:

DICK WYMENGA: That the September 13th, 2011 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted as amended.

340/11 CARRIED 6/0

**CONFIRMATION
OF MINUTES:**

1. August 23rd, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes

JIM DUNCAN: That the Minutes of the August 23rd, 2011 Regular Meeting be confirmed as circulated.

341/11 CARRIED 6/0

2. August 23rd, 2011 Public Hearing Minutes

JOHN VANDERMEER: That the Minutes of the August 23rd, 2011 Public Hearing be confirmed as circulated.

342/11 CARRIED 6/0

PUBLIC WORKS: 1. Public Works Manager's Report

Marshall Morton presented the September 13, 2011 Public Works manager's report.

Construction

The crew working on Twp. Rd 40-3A, west of the Bingley Hall, has completed the scheduled 3.2 kms of rebuild and has moved to R.R. 5-0 South of the Rainy Creek Road.

The Crew working on Twp. Rd. 38-2 (north of Evergreen and west of the Wall Street Rd) has roughed in 2.5km's of the scheduled 3.2km

Prentice Creek Contracting is working on the intersectional improvement of Hwy 11 and are laying the Base Coarse on the by-pass lanes.

Beaver Control Program

Beaver activity has slowed in the past few weeks with about 70 beaver having been removed so far this year.

Ditching

Ditching is continuing on Rg. Rd. 6-1 south of Twp. Rd 39-4 (by Kautz).

Bridges

BF 8192 (Burnstick Lake Road) is now completed and open to traffic, Final inspection was done on BF 8192 on the September 12, 2011 with only minor deficiencies noted. The most notable being the planting of willows being delayed until spring to increase a successful growth.

BF 1963 (James River South) - Will be closing Oct. 17 for approximately two weeks in order to facilitate a deck replacement. Notices will be sent to local papers as well as posted on the Clearwater County website.

Misc.

Cattle guards on the James River Road have been cleaned in preparation for some repair work.

Side slope Improvements on the Everdell Road and Prairie Creek Roads have started and will take two or three weeks to complete.

Water/Wastewater

Fortis has returned a quoted of 15,800.00 to change the electrical service at the Leslieville Lift Station from single to Three Phase power. PW is investigating the other requirements needed with a change from single to three phase.

Surfaced Roads

The Chip seal program has now been completed.

Amec Engineering has been hired to perform some testing on the Angle Road in order to provide a recommendation on what needs to be done to facilitate an asphalt overlay on this road.

Current Road Bans:

Road Bans are unchanged from August 23, 2011 Council meeting.

Mr. Morton noted that public works anticipates being slightly over budget on grader maintenance due to wet weather and fuel costs. Staff responded to questions regarding road ban on angle road and industry's impact on road infrastructure and dust control requirements.

BOB BRYANT:

That the Public Works Manager's Report of September 13th, 2011 be accepted as presented.

343/11

CARRIED 6/0

Diane Fingler joined the meeting. Darrell Philip and Marshall Morton left the meeting.

FINANCE:

1. Accounts Payable Listing

Council reviewed the Open Payable Report for September 13th, 2011 which was previously sent to Council.

Staff responded to question regarding information missing from description fields and that new staff have been advised to include details in future payables entries.

JIM DUNCAN:

That Council accepts the Accounts Payable Listing as information.

344/11

CARRIED 6/0

Murray Hagan left the meeting. Mike Haugen and Tyler McKinnon joined the meeting.

MUNICIPAL: 1. Municipal Manager's Report

Ron Leaf presented the Municipal Manager's Report for September 13th, 2011.

Strategic Planning/AUMA convention conflict

A review of the AUMA conference schedule shows that the conference begins on September 28th at the same time Council has scheduled to review its draft strategic plan. Mr. Leaf recommended that Council consider rescheduling strategic planning meeting.

By consensus, Council agreed to move the Strategic Planning meeting to October 6th at 8:00am until 2:00pm.

Chamber of Commerce breakfast

The Chamber requested a joint breakfast meeting with the Town and County on October 11. The breakfast would begin at 7:30 at the Tamarack Inn and an agenda will be forwarded in the next couple of weeks, pending confirmation by the two Councils that they are available.

By consensus, Council agreed to the breakfast meeting date of October 11 at 7:30am.

ARMAA convention highlights

Mr. Leaf attended the Alberta Rural Administrator Association (ARMAA) conference in Grande Prairie September 7-9. The conference was beneficial and Mr. Leaf shared the following information with Council:

- a) The AAMDC and AUMA have reviewed the implications of the proposal put forward by one of the PC Leader candidates suggesting that municipalities be allowed 100% of the property tax. This study has identified that under such a proposal 172 municipalities would derive more revenue and 182 would lose revenue.
- b) A legislative review of the MGA will begin in 2012. The review process is anticipated to take 5-7 years with the "Part"s dealing with assessment and governance being reviewed first. Part 17, Planning, will likely be the last area reviewed, largely due to the Land Use Framework process.
- c) Cold Lake and Lac La Biche County are in mediation around the allocation of the assessment associated with the air base. As the mediation process is still underway, no details were made public. Mr. Leaf will monitor situation and intends on providing information to Council as this process unfolds.
- d) There is discussion occurring between the Federal and Provincial Governments around extending Federal gas tax funding program to address municipal infrastructure deficits. The current Federal program ends in 2014. Mr. Leaf suggests that during Council's next meeting with our MPs that the need for details around federal infrastructure grants are needed soon.

AAMDC Convention

Mr. Leaf noted the AAMDC Convention agenda and Partner Program previously sent to Council and asked Council to coordinate registration and partner's program registration with Christine Heggart. Mr. Leaf also noted Sandy Anderson will be attending from the Town of Rocky and that the Village of Caroline will advise Council shortly of who will attend.

Meeting Opportunity – AAMDC convention

Council has stated that one of its key strategic focuses is “improving intergovernmental relationships”. Council had discussed meeting with a neighbouring municipality during the spring and fall conventions and Mr. Leaf questioned whether Council wished to coordinate a meeting or supper with one of our rural neighbours during the upcoming convention.

Mr. Leaf proposed the following discussion topics:

- 1) Ponoka – Orange Hawkweed; coordinated response to gas activity (e.g. roads, permitting processes, emergency response, etc.); coordinated paving of road(s)
- 2) Lacombe – coordinated response to gas activity; joint gravel pit development/operation; coordinated paving of road(s)
- 3) Red Deer County – coordinated response to gas activity; joint gravel pit development/operation; coordinated paving of road(s)
- 4) Mountain View County – coordinated response to gas activity; joint gravel pit development/operation; coordinated paving of road(s)
- 5) M.D. of Brazeau – Eastern Slopes Issues/Impact of Recreational Use of Crown Land

Council indicated that they wished to meet with neighbouring municipalities outside of the convention, given how tight timelines are during this event.

County Committee advertisements

Council's organizational meeting will be on October 25th. In preparation for that meeting Council will see advertisements for the various committee vacancies running beginning next week.

CAO Holidays

Mr. Leaf will be out of the office the following days: September 21, October 18 & 19.

Upcoming Events

- Sept 19 – Meeting with K Division
- Oct 6 – Strategic Planning – 8:00 a.m. start
- Sept 28 – AUMA convention (John & Earl)
- Oct 14 – CAAMDC Zone meeting - Ponoka
- Nov 3 - Council media training

BOB BRYANT:

That the Municipal Manager's Report of September 13th, 2011 be accepted as presented.

345/11

CARRIED 6/0

MUNICIPAL:

2. Library Funding

Tyler McKinnon presented a request from the Town of Rocky Mountain House to cost share in the planned renaming of the Public Library in honour of the late Helen Hunley. Rocky Town Council requested that County Council consider cost sharing the re-signing of the library and installation of a plaque estimated to cost the \$4,500 (\$2,000 for the plaque and \$2,500 for the new signage). Clearwater County provides operational funding for the Rocky Mountain House Public library on a 50-50 basis with the Town.

Council discussed whether appropriate to pay in 2011 budget or defer until 2012.

CASE KORVER:

That Council approve \$2,250 funding for the library renaming project.

346/11

CARRIED 5/1

Tyler McKinnon and Mike Haugen left the meeting.

MUNICIPAL: 3. Split Mill Rate Resolution

Ron Leaf presented a resolution regarding a split tax rate within the non-residential assessment category. The resolution will be presented at the upcoming CAAMDC zone meeting in Ponoka on October 14, 2011.

The resolution calls on the provincial government to respond to recommendations made in 2007 by the Minister's Council on Sustainability which recommended, among other things, that municipalities be allowed the authority to apply a limited split-tax rate to the non-residential assessment categories.

Mr. Leaf discussed a "two times" limit and alternative being the limit to be determined by Provincially appointed committee. Mr. Leaf noted that either limitation proposed in the resolution would likely be the focus of considerable debate or opposition by at least some municipalities.

Council discussed the resolution options, noting should the recommendations in the resolution be accepted, adopting a split mill rate would remain optional for municipalities.

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| CASE KORVER: | That Council endorses the resolution for a split tax rate in the non-residential assessment category as presented. |
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347/11

CARRIED 6/0

Kim Nielsen joined the meeting.

MUNICIPAL: 4. Agricultural Services Update

Kim Nielsen presented an Agricultural Service update for September 13th, 2011.

New Administrative Assistant

Mr. Neilsen announced Anne-Marie Bertagnolli, as the new Agricultural Services Administrative Assistant. Anne-Marie has a Bachelor of Agriculture degree from England and farms with her husband Mark south of Rocky where they run a large beef cow/calf operation.

Geoff McFarlane Landcare Visit

Mr. Nielsen summarized the Landcare visit survey results with very positive comments from the organizations whom Geoff spoke with.

Weeds/PAWC

The Agricultural Services department is wrapping up the private/public Weed Program and Martin Winchell will present a list of properties that are recommended for warning letters as well as Weed Control Act issued Notices for 2012. As well Nancy Graham and her Alhambra/Arbutus Priority Area Weed (PAWC) Compliance Project committee has met and will be recommending a different process for 2012 with respect to the community engagement and the regulatory side of weed compliance.

With respect to PAWC, the community survey will be sent out next week with a community meeting scheduled late September when 2011 results, Steering Committee election and plans for 2012 will be on the agenda.

Sunde Tall Butter Grazing Impact Trial

Agriculture Services have done the first clip of the grazing trial on Allan and Wanda Sunde's farm, near Alhambra. Grass growth and stocking densities were such that little impact of the juvenile tall buttercup was measurable. The project was featured on the West Country Ag Tour and offered some great

dialogue on combining good grazing management with a herbicide program. A second grazing rotation will commence in a month or so with a subsequent clip to finalize the 2011 year. Considerations could be given to repeat this in 2012, which will show tall buttercup impact under heavier grazed conditions.

West Country Ag Tour

Mr. Nielsen summarized the 24th Annual West Country Ag Tour itinerary, noted the record number of 91 participants and provided a summary of survey feedback from participants.

Roadside Vegetation Management/Custom Spraying

Mr. Nielsen noted Steve Maki is on first year brush spraying and tackling late Canada thistle as well, wrapping up next week. Roadside Mowing has been completed and with some excellent tractor operators on staff. Agricultural Services double shifted for a few days catching up on a late start. The amount of custom spraying this year caused a late start on roadside mowing.

Central Region ASB Conference

Mr. Nielsen noted the Clearwater County is hosting the Central Region ASB Conference on October 26th from 9:00am to 4:00pm at the Leslieville Hall. The Agricultural Services Board will set the agenda with Alberta Ag Reports and Resolutions as standard components of the one-day conference. All central Alberta ASBs will be in attendance around 100 people anticipated.

Age Verification

Clearwater County signed another Age Verification Agreement with Alberta Agriculture and anticipate getting a similar \$50.00 amount to last year from each farmer we are assisting in complying with the Alberta Traceability Program.

Herbicide Retailing

Mr. Nielsen noted that herbicide sales statistics show Clearwater County will be one of the largest, if not the largest, single outlet retailer nationally as Dow AgroSciences Range and Pasture Agent. The department sold herbicide to close to 600 local landowners since the middle of May and sales will surpass last year's for the fourth consecutive year to in excess of \$300,000.

Staff responded to questions regarding scentless chamomile.

JIM DUNCAN: That Council accepts the Agricultural Services Update as information.

348/11 CARRIED 6/0

DICK WYMENGA: That Council authorizes all Councillors to attend the Central Region ASB Conference on October 26.

349/11 CARRIED 6/0

Kim Nielsen left the meeting. Mike Haugen joined the meeting.

MUNICIPAL: 5. County Slogan

Christine Heggart discussed Council's interest in developing a Clearwater County Slogan. This type of slogan or statement may be used online, on future County signage, on County merchandise or in County correspondence.

Staff recommended a public contest be coordinated with a marketing plan that includes driving interested residents to our website or possibly Facebook

page. Submission forms would need to be completed and submitted to Clearwater County in hard copy, as signatures are required to eliminate any legal liabilities.

The contest rules would include a disclaimer that the decision of County slogan is solely Council's discretion, and that there is a possibility that no submission may be selected.

BOB BRYANT: That Council approve development of a Clearwater County Slogan contest.

350/11

CARRIED 6/0

MUNICIPAL: 7. South East Recreation Tender

Mike Haugen presented a tender summary for a portion of Phase 1 development of the South East Recreation Grounds. The work to be completed includes demolition, earthworks, deep utilities installation, ball diamond features and landscaping. The remainder of Phase 1 which includes construction of the concession/washroom building will be tendered next year in conjunction with the Village's expansion/renovation of the Complex in order to reduce cost.

Staff recommended disqualifying one bidder, as there tender did not contain unit pricing as indicated.

The engineering estimate for this work was \$581,850.00 excluding GST and contingency and staff recommended that Council award the project to McKnight Enterprises of Innisfail who bid \$468,666.00 for the project.

JOHN VANDERMEER: That Council authorizes the awarding of Phase 1 Earthworks of the South East Recreation Grounds to McKnight Enterprises.

351/11

CARRIED 6/0

IN CAMERA: 6. In Camera

JIM DUNCAN: That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of discussing an RCMP issue.
10.48 A.M.

352/11

CARRIED 6/0

Christine Heggart, Jessica Jones, Diane Fingler left the meeting.

JIM DUNCAN: That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting at 11:03 A.M.

353/11

CARRIED 6/0

Christine Heggart, Jessica Jones, Keith McCrae, Marilyn Sanders, Vic Maxwell, Steven Hart, Gordon Hart, Dennis Nielsen, Joyce Nielsen and Marshall Morton joined the meeting.

PLANNING: 1. Land Use Amendment

Marilyn Sanders summarized application No. 08/11 to amend the Land Use Bylaw for the redesignation of 29.97 acres described as PT NW 32-38 06-W5 from Agriculture District "A" to Light Industrial District "LI" for

the purpose of establishing an oilfield rental business site.

The applicants intend to consolidate operations from 4 small unsatisfactory locations in Rocky Mountain House and Clearwater County. They plan to construct a manufacturing shop and office building to headquarter their business from this parcel. This site would accommodate the engineering, manufacturing and testing of all of their equipment for western Canada.

Vic Maxwell reiterated the applicant's industry and intent for a rezoned parcel with appropriate screening for adjacent properties. Mr. Maxwell referenced adjacent roadways and access points and responded to questions regarding water usage, access roads and potential expansion.

Mr. Hart responded to questions regarding security and intended use of parcel.

Mr. Maxwell further responded to concern of impact on adjacent properties, noting no noise from operation, screening as appropriate and the minimal traffic flow.

Mr. Hart responded to question of types of screening and testing of 15 products that are patent pending and noted that there isn't any industrial land available in Rocky.

BOB BRYANT: That the meeting recess for lunch at 11:45 A.M.

354/11

CARRIED 6/0

The Meeting reconvened at 12:46 P.M. with the same people present as noted at the beginning of the meeting excluding Marshall Morton, Darrell Philip, Murray Hagan and including Marilyn Sanders and Keith McCrae.

IN CAMERA: 6. In Camera

DICK WYMENGA: That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of discussing a draft policy.
12.47 P.M.

355/11

CARRIED 6/0

JIM DUNCAN: That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting at 1:25 P.M.

356/11

CARRIED 6/0

Jessica Jones and Christine Heggart joined the meeting.

PLANNING: 1. Land Use Amendment

Council discussed standard industrial lot sizes, importance of the protection of agriculture and need to balance protection with economic development and land development.

FIRST READING of Bylaw 946/11 to amend the Land Use Bylaw for the redesignation of 29.97 acres described as PT NW 32-38 06-W5 from Agriculture District "A" to Light Industrial District "LI" for the purpose of establishing an oilfield rental business site was moved by Councillor Bryant.

ADJOURNMENT: BOB BRYANT:
1:34 P.M.

That the Meeting adjourns.

CARRIED 6/0

REEVE

MUNICIPAL MANAGER