

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held October 9, 2012 in the County Office at Rocky Mountain House.

CALL TO ORDER: The Meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Reeve Alexander with the following being present:

Reeve:	Pat Alexander
Councillors:	Earl Graham
	Dick Wymenga
	John Vandermeer
	Bob Bryant
	Jim Duncan
Municipal Manager:	Ron Leaf
Director, CPS:	Mike Haugen
Recording Secretary:	Christine Heggart/Trevor Duley
TIMS:	Darrell Philip
	Sarah Maetche

AGENDA: Councillor Duncan requested that Council add the Pow Wow committee report. Councillor Wymenga requested that Council add the Bighorn Back Country committee report.

JOHN VANDERMEER: That the October 9, 2012 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted as amended.

358/12

CARRIED 6/0

**CONFIRMATION
OF MINUTES:**

1. September 25, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes

Councillor Duncan noted the need to remove Councillor Korver's name from the September 25 minutes.

JIM DUNCAN: That the Minutes of the September 25, 2012 Regular Meeting be accepted as amended.

359/12

CARRIED 6/0

MUNICIPAL:

1. Alberta Health Services Board—Meeting Invitation

Ron Leaf presented an invitation to Alberta Health Services (AHS) Board community engagement reception on Tuesday, October 30, 2012 in Red Deer.

AHS Board Chair Stephen Lockwood, President and CEO Dr. Chris, have extended an invitation to discuss healthcare related matters in the area in an effort to build a healthier tomorrow for Albertans. Mr. Leaf noted that given Council's recent discussions regarding EMS service and goal for a new hospital, he recommended that representatives from Council should attend.

Mr. Leaf further explained that in 2009 Council authorized the Reeve to attend a similar AHS Board meeting and in 2011 authorized all Councillors' attendance.

Council discussed meeting attendance and Reeve Alexander noted that a number of AHS speakers are typically in attendance and that attendees are encouraged to submit written questions.

BOB BRYANT:

That Council authorizes all Councillors attendance at the AHS Board meeting on October 30, 2012 in Red Deer.

360/12

CARRIED 6/0

2. 2012 Organizational Meeting

Ron Leaf provided information on organizational meeting advertisements detailing the available board and committee positions to be filled at the upcoming Organizational Meeting on October 23, 2012.

Mr. Leaf went on to say that thank-you letters have been sent to current board/committee members with terms that are expiring, as well as to those members continuing their board commitments. Members with terms that are expiring were encouraged to reapply for an additional term or for other committees.

Mr. Leaf asked that should Council know of any parties interested in applying for positions to encourage them to submit a letter of interest to Ms. Heggart by October 16, 2012.

BOB BRYANT:

That Council accepts the update on the 2012 Organizational Meeting as information.

361/12

CARRIED 6/0

3. Parkland Regional Library Proposed Budget 2013-2015

Mike Haugen presented the Parkland Regional Library (PRL) proposed budget for 2013-2015.

The proposed budget outlines an increased in per capita rates from \$7.07 in 2012 to \$7.28 in 2013. Based on the most recent census information, which lists Clearwater County's population at 12,278 residents, the total PRL requisition amount for 2013 would be \$89,383.84 stated Mr. Haugen.

He further explained that this would represent an increase of \$5,784.02 over the 2012 requisition amount. Last year's proposed budget (2012-2014) had estimated a 2013 per capita rate of \$7.53. The actual 2013 rate being proposed is no \$0.25 less, which amounts to \$3,071.75 less based on the County's population.

Mr. Haugen finished by stating that PRL has requested that Council provide a written decision regarding the approval of this budget by November 1, 2012 in order that any concerns may be addressed at the PRL Board meeting that is scheduled for November 8, 2012.

Councillor Bryant commented that the County gets good value for their dollar from the organization and that the Town of Rocky Mountain House has had their input into the budget also.

JIM DUNCAN:

That Council approves Parkland Regional Library's 2013-15 budget as presented.

362/12

CARRIED 6/0

Marshall Morton and Diane Fingler joined the meeting.

4. AAMD&C Convention: “Provincial Perspectives: Alberta’s Opposition Parties”

Trevor Duley noted that at the upcoming Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties’ (AAMD&C) Convention, leaders of Alberta’s political opposition parties will be in attendance for a question and answer session. The tentative date and time for this session is Thursday, November 15th between 8:30 and 9:30 a.m. at the Shaw Conference Centre.

He went on to say that the AAMD&C requested its members submit a list of questions they would like to see asked by October 11th, and that typically the moderator will ask between 20 and 25 questions of each leader.

Council acknowledged the draft list of questions that Mr. Duley provided them, and Reeve Alexander commented that he would like to see a question posed to the Wildrose Party regarding the growing increase in school-taxes. A discussion then took place regarding the public feedback they had received regarding school taxes. Council reiterated the to pose this question, as well as to ask the NDP for their stance on market-value assessment of farms.

EARL GRAHAM:	That Council approves the amended submission of the attached questions to be sent to the AAMD&C for Alberta’s Opposition Party question period.
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363/12

CARRIED 6/0

5. Caroline Arena Expansion

Mike Haugen provided background information regarding the project management of the Caroline Arena Expansion project at the request of the Village of Caroline. He explained an expansion and renovation project was developed and put out to tender but cost estimates proved to be low and the project price was well over the budgeted amount.

Mr. Haugen stated that a different expansion project was discussed and options around the second lesser expansion were considered. After some discussion the Village Council made the decision to no longer pursue an expansion of any sort to the Caroline Complex and opted to investigate the potential repair and upgrade of the existing facility instead.

As such, Mr. Haugen acknowledged the County’s role as project manager has concluded. Moving forward, the Village of Caroline will be working with the Caroline and District Athletic and Agricultural Society to review options and create a project.

Mr. Haugen indicated the County investment towards the Caroline Arena Expansion project was budgeted to be \$500,000.00.

Mr. Haugen responded to question regarding the Village’s financial contributions to the project noting \$50,000 in engineering work had been completed.

JIM DUNCAN:	That Council accepts the Caroline Arena Expansion report as information.
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364/12

CARRIED 6/0

6. Town Request—Curtis Field Upgrade

Mike Haugen indicated that the Town of Rocky Mountain House is requesting the County's consideration of providing up to \$84,150.00 in funding to complete upgrades of Curtis Field. He noted the amount constitutes a 50% split which is consistent with the current recreation agreement between the Town and County, and could be funded from Contingency.

Mr. Haugen highlighted that staff have been working with the Town regarding a larger project to upgrade Curtis Field as well as to convert the current practice field to a full-sized playing field and with County support, submitted an application to the Community Infrastructure Improvement Fund (CIIF) to help off-set the cost of the project. Mr. Haugen stated the full cost of upgrading both fields is estimated to be \$629,148.00.

A discussion then took place over the future maintenance of Curtis Field by the Town, as opposed to the Wild Rose School Division. Reeve Alexander mentioned there is an opportunity for the field to receive corporate sponsors.

DICK WYMENGA: That Council approves the reallocation of \$84,150.00 from Contingency to the transfer to Town Recreation budget item for the purposes of upgrading Curtis Field.

365/12

CARRIED 6/0

Joe Baker, Rick Emmons and Keith McCrae joined the meeting.

INFORMATION: 1. Information Items

Discussion took place on the Creating Rural Connections conference on October 11-13, the Public Works Director's report, the Bridge Weights item and the 2013 Budget Priorities Provincial News Release.

DICK WYMENGA: That Council accepts the CAO's report, Public Works Director's Report, Accounts Payable Listing, Provincial News Release, FCM Letter and Bridge Weights items as information.

366/12

CARRIED 6/0

Wade Cowell and Erik Hansen joined the meeting.

MUNICIPAL: 7. ESRD FireSmart Delegation

Wade Cowell from Alberta Environment, Sustainable Resources and Development (ESRD) provided information regarding the FireSmart program being developed in the Goldeye area. He highlighted that along the Highway 11 corridor are where fires are generally most likely to occur due to human activities. He included with his presentation a series of maps, highlighting different scenarios with and without fire blocks in place.

Diane Fingler left the meeting.

Mr. Cowell went on to say the areas cleared for fire-blocks would be left for natural vegetative regeneration, in order for a species conversion to occur. He stated that debris disposal would be burned. Mr. Cowell stated that visual concerns associated with tree removal were taken into consideration, and also that work will be done this winter with frozen ground conditions. He stated that in total, close to 315 hectares of trees will be removed within the area.

Councillor Bryant questioned Mr. Cowell regarding Crimson Lake, to which Mr. Cowell stated his department would be able to make a statement in two weeks' time.

EARL GRAHAM:

That Council accepts the ESRD Firesmart Program for Goldeye Area presentation as information.

367/12

CARRIED 6/0

ADJOURNMENT: JOHN VANDERMEER:
11:20 A.M

That the Meeting adjourns.

CARRIED 6/0

REEVE

MUNICIPAL MANAGER