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> Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held February 24, 2015 in the Clearwater County Council Chambers in 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:

Patrick Alexander

Councillors:

Earl Graham Curt Maki Jim Duncan Kyle Greenwood

John Vandermeer

CAO:

Ron Leaf

Director, Community & Protective Service: Ted Hickey

Recording Secretary:

Tracy Haight Erik Hansen

Staff:

**Kurt Magnus** Brad Welygan Scott Brettelle **Christine Heggart** Les Horseman

Public: Media: **Dennis Ross** 

Denia Gravelle Laura Button

#### **AGENDA** APPROVAL:

Councillor Duncan requested the addition of a verbal report as Item H4 -Friends Of the Eastern Slopes Association (FOESA) Annual Meeting and Banquet.

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That the February 24, 2015 Regular

Meeting Agenda be accepted as

amended.

063/15

CARRIED 6/0

#### CONFIRMATION **OF MINUTES:**

## February 10, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD:

That the Minutes of the February 10, 2015

Regular Meeting be accepted.

064/15

CARRIED 6/0

## **PUBLIC WORKS:**

# Final Policy Review: Road Use Policy for Industrial/Commercial Truck Hauls

Erik Hansen outlined amendments to the Road Use for Industrial/Commercial Truck Hauls Policy and the Road Use Agreement administration form, as per Council's review on February 10.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN:

That Council approves the "Road Use

Policy for Industrial/Commercial Truck

Hauls" as presented.

065/15

# 2. Final DRAFT Policy: Endeavour to Assist

Erik Hansen outlined amendments to the draft Endeavour to Assist Program Policy, as per Council's review on February 10.

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That Council approves the "Endeavour to

Assist Program" policy as presented

066/15

CARRIED 6/0

Mr. Hansen reviewed revisions to the Access Roads Policy and noted the revisions are reflective of adopting the Endeavour to Assist Program Policy.

Mr. Hansen responded to questions from Council and noted the Isolated Access Roads on Right-of-Way Policy is not affected by the revised Access Roads Policy.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM:

That Council approves the Access

Roads Policy as presented.

067/15

CARRIED 6/0

# 3. Tender Award: Replacement Motor Grader and 84" Padfoot Packer

Kurt Magnus stated administration tendered the purchase of a replacement motor grader and an 84" padfoot packer.

At the February 13 tender opening, three bids were received for the grader in which Finning (Canada) was the low valid bidder at a cost of \$384,271.55. Nine bids were received for the packer in which Strongco was the low valid bidder at a cost of \$179,865.

Mr. Magnus stated due to the decreased value of the Canadian dollar, the cost of these capital equipment purchases exceed the amount budgeted in 2015 by \$66,000. Therefore, Administration requests reallocating \$66,000 from the Municipal Contingency Reserve to the 2015 Capital Equipment Budget to cover the shortfall.

Mr. Magnus responded to questions from Council and explained the old grader will be sold at auction and the sale proceeds will be allocated to the Sale of Assets general ledger account.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN:

That Council reallocates \$66,000 from the

Municipal Contingency Reserve to the

2015 Capital Equipment Budget.

068/15

CARRIED 6/0

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER:

That Council awards the Motor Grader

tender to Finning (Canada).

069/15

CARRIED 6/0

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That Council awards the 84" padfoot

packer tender to Strongco.

070/15

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Brad Welygan, Les Horseman, Scott Brettelle, Kurt Magnus, and Erik Hansen left the meeting.

#### **MUNICIPAL:**

# 1. Electronic Voting Machines/Election 2017

Christine Heggart provided information on options for municipal election voting methods as follows:

Option 1 - Maintain the status quo for Clearwater County's municipal elections. Traditionally, Clearwater County provides 17 to 18 polling stations for voters and uses paper ballots for voting. The average cost of the municipal election is approximately \$50,000.

Option 2 – Implement the use of electronic voting machines (EVM) in one or more polling stations (Rocky Mountain House/Caroline). EVM's require a stable and secure high speed internet connection, a trained technician on site, and costs anywhere from \$9500 to \$22,000 per polling station.

Internet voting is not considered an option for municipal elections in Alberta as during the 2013 election, Municipal Affairs Minister informed municipalities that the potential for misuse and abuse with internet voting hasn't been adequately addressed yet.

Constable Harold Smits and Constable Heather Munro joined the meeting.

Ms. Heggart responded to questions from Council and explained that the technology and audit process for EVM's does not allow for shared use by municipalities.

Discussion followed and Council noted that the high cost of EVM's, as well as limited availability of high speed internet required for EVM's, prohibit the use of EVM's in Clearwater County.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN:

That Council approves Option 1 -

Maintain the status quo for Clearwater

County Municipal Elections.

071 /15

CARRIED 6/0

## 2. Final Draft Policy: Reimbursement of Legal Costs

Ron Leaf presented the final draft of the Reimbursement of Legal Costs Policy for Council's review, previously presented at the February 10 meeting.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER:

That Council approves the Reimbursement

of Legal Costs Policy as presented.

072/15

CARRIED 6/0

#### 3. Invitation from the Mayor's Office - Drayton Valley

Council discussed the invitation from Glenn McLean, Mayor of Drayton Valley, to engage in an informational session on each of the respective communities.

Marianne Cole joined the meeting.

Discussion followed and Council noted the Mayor of Drayton Valley indicated interest in discussing Clearwater County's experience with regional

collaboration and the development and implementation of the Stronger Together Agreement.

Council noted that before the invitation is accepted, followup with Drayton Valley is required to determine topics of discussion, nature of meeting, and level of participation from Brazeau County and the Village of Breton. Council also expressed a desire that representatives from the Village of Caroline and Town of Rocky Mountain House should also be invited.

**COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER:** 

That Council tables the invitation from the Mayor of Drayton Valley pending further

information.

073 /15

CARRIED 6/0

#### **DELEGATION:**

# 1. Constable Harold Smits and Constable Heather Munro, School Resource Officers

Ted Hickey introduced Constable (Cst.) Harold Smits and Constable Heather Munro, School Resource Officers (SRO).

Cst. Smits presented the 2013-2014 Clearwater County and Rocky Mountain House School Resource Officer Report to Council and discussion followed on call statistics and SROs involvement in the community and schools.

Cst. Smits and Cst. Munro responded to questions from Council and noted the following:

- There is no significant increase in calls for service/assistance.
- The program focuses on relationship building and cooperation between students, RCMP, teachers, and parents.
- The SRO agreement is included in the policing agreement between the Town of Rocky Mountain House and the RCMP. Therefore, Clearwater County provides its share of funding for the program to the Town of Rocky Mountain House.
- The rural SRO is a fulltime position that is shared between schools in Leslieville, Condor, Caroline, and the David Thompson High School. On occasion, community policing is also provided, including patrols within the area.
- During school breaks SROs perform community policing duties, attend training, and/or complete their vacation entitlement.

Council suggested that administration review the policing agreement and that SROs provide quarterly reports as part of the program's communication strategy.

Discussion followed on the program's measures of success which includes a decrease in the number of offenses by students; an increase in a student's school performance; and the strong relationship and collaborative partnership with family wellness agencies.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD:

That Council accepts the information as

presented.

074/15

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# COMMUNITY & PROTECTIVE SERVICES:

## 1. Clearwater County Highway Patrol 2014 Annual Report

Ted Hickey requested that Council table the Clearwater County Highway Patrol 2014 Annual Report as Sargent Miller is unable to attend today's meeting due to illness.

**COUNCILLOR GRAHAM:** 

That Council tables the Clearwater

County Highway Patrol 2014 Annual

Report to the March 10 meeting.

075/15

CARRIED 6/0

Mr. Hickey responded to questions from Council and noted the Clearwater County Community Peace Officers (CPO) will attend the Red Deer Sportsman Show, along with Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD), to deliver the Sasquatch program message to the public.

Discussion followed on the program's ongoing success in educating the public, in a positive manner, on preventative measures required to protect the West Country from disrespectful recreation use.

Ron Leaf noted the program is gaining popularity and attention from other municipalities and that Yellowhead County would like to meet with Clearwater County to discuss the program.

Cammie Laird joined the meeting.

#### 2. Town of Sundre – Fire Services Agreement

Ted Hickey stated that the Town of Sundre's Fire Department provides emergency fire and rescue services within the southern areas of Clearwater County thru a mutual aid agreement.

Upon a review of service delivery factors and discussions with the Town of Sundre, Administration determined that a fire services agreement conveys a higher level of commitment to first emergency response than a mutual aid agreement. The draft Fire Services Agreement between Clearwater County and the Town of Sundre, provides the following:

- an acceptable level of emergency first response service for Clearwater County residents in the south;
- reasonable service costs;
- a demonstration of commitment between the two municipalities.

Discussion followed and Mr. Hickey responded to questions from Council. He explained the agreement identifies response areas and fees and charges for service.

Discussion continued and Council noted the Town of Sundre responds to an average four to six calls per year. Most of the calls are for motor vehicle accidents and there is the potential for cost recovery through insurance for these types of calls.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM:

That Council authorizes the Reeve and CAO to sign the Fire Services Agreement between Clearwater County and Town of Sundre.

076 /15

#### **INFORMATION:**

Ron Leaf reviewed the scheduled dates for meeting with various groups and agencies to discuss Council's draft 2015-2018 Strategic Plan. Councillor Vandermeer indicated his availability for the March 9 meeting with the Village of Caroline.

Council discussed an invitation to meet with the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA) on March 11 to discuss local and provincial bridge structure issues. Council noted that APEGA may be of assistance in addressing specifications for alternative bridge structures and it was suggested that Clearwater County correspond with APEGA to determine the correlation between the province and engineers on the local issues of bridge structures.

# 4. FOESA Annual Meeting and Banquet

Councillor Duncan stated that at the February 21 FOESA Annual Meeting and Banquet he accepted, on behalf of Council, a picture from the FOESA in recognition of Council's past contributions of aggregate.

Discussion followed on FOESA's achievements in multiuse trail work in the West Country. Council noted that there are several individuals from provincial ministries and agencies that are interested in the construction and development of proposed trail projects in Clearwater County. After the provincial election, Council will determine specific individuals and nature of tour.

Council discussed the public meeting scheduled for February 26 regarding the James River Bridge. Councillor Graham stated he will attend.

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That Council accepts the CAO

Report, Public Works Director's Report, Councillor Duncan's report on the FOESA Annual Meeting and Banquet, and Accounts Payable Listing as

information.

CARRIED 6/0

ADJOURNMENT: 10:28 P.M.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN:

That the Meeting adjourns.

078/15

077/15

CARRIED 6/0

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER