

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held September 22, 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
	John Vandermeer
	Kyle Greenwood
	Theresa Laing
CAO:	Ron Leaf
Recording Secretary:	Christine Heggart
Staff:	Marshall Morton
	Kurt Magnus
	Rudy Huisman
	Rhonda Serhan
	Jerry Pratt
	Janice Anderson
	Brad Welygan
Media:	Laura Button
	Sylvana Crosby
	Helge Nome

**AGENDA
APPROVAL:**

Councillor Vandermeer added F2 - Rural Communications Committee Report.
Councillor Duncan added H3 - Clearwater Trails Initiative verbal update.
Ron Leaf added I2 – Labour item In Camera.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the September 22, 2015 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted as amended.

342/15 CARRIED 7/0

**CONFIRMATION
OF MINUTES:**

1. September 8, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes

Councillor Duncan noted that an amendment to the conference attendance motion be changed to reflect the Digital Futures Conference, taking place in Olds, Alberta on October 15/16.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That the Minutes of the September 8, 2015 Regular Meeting be accepted as amended.

343/15 CARRIED 7/0

PUBLIC WORKS: 1. Grader Beat 504

Kurt Magnus presented the tenders for Grader Beat # 504, to begin on October 1st, 2015, (five year contract) for the maintenance of approximately 169 km of gravel road in the Dovercourt Area.

Mr. Magnus noted that the tender opening was held on Tuesday September 15th, 2015, at 2:01 p.m. and that five bids were received with Ogopogo Graders Ltd. being the low valid bidder at \$83.50/hour.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That Council approves awarding the Grader Beat # 504 contract to Ogopogo Graders Ltd.

344/15

CARRIED 7/0

Marshall Morton left the meeting.

**CORPORATE
SERVICES:**

1. Capital Budget Performance

Rudy Huisman provided an overview of the 2015 Approved Capital Budget (\$25,213,175) and the associated funding sources for capital expenditures included \$6,233,278 in Capital Grants, \$7,139,791 from existing Capital Reserves and \$11,840,106 from 2015 Operations. He noted that at the end of August, \$8,255,137 or 33% of the budget had been expended.

Mr. Huisman described the projects included in the 2015 capital budget, including: land purchases, the design and preliminary costs for two facilities, the replacement of several bridges, and the acquisition of some machinery, equipment and vehicles, as well as the normal planned road work.

He noted that the asphalt overlay and bridge rehabilitation projects scheduled for September and October are just getting under way and that facility projects, with a total budget of \$5.7 million, are not proceeding as quickly as planned and budget for these will be carried over to the 2016 budget. He added that the rotational slide at the Clearwater Estates Bridge project will result in additional costs.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council accepts the Capital Budget Performance item as information.

345/15

CARRIED 7/0

**COMMUNITY &
PROTECTIVE
SERVICES:**

1. Fall High School Awards Ceremonies

Jerry Pratt provided an overview of the "Post-Secondary Scholarship Program" Policy, and its annual contribution of \$1000 scholarships to one student from each of the four high schools located in the County.

He noted the four ceremonies scheduled, Caroline School: TBA; David Thompson High School: October 8th at 7:00 pm; St. Dominic's High School: October 9th at 2:00 pm; and, West Central High School: October 22th at 6:30pm.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council authorizes Councillor Vandermeer or Councillor Graham to attend Caroline School awards ceremony; Councillor Maki to attend David Thompson awards ceremony; Councillor Laing to attend St. Dominic's awards ceremony; and, Reeve Alexander or Councillor Duncan to attend West Central awards ceremony.

346/15

CARRIED 7/0

Denniece Crout joined the meeting.

**COMMUNITY &
PROTECTIVE
SERVICES:**

1. Rural Communications Committee

Councillor Vandermeer presented a listing of potential Clearwater County Rural Communications Committee (CCRCC) members, describing the members and their roles on the Committee.

Discussion took place regarding CCRCC mandate and timeframe, committee orientation, partnership opportunities and associated Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) legislation.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council approve the members on the CCRCC list as presented.

347/15

CARRIED 7/0

Jerry Pratt and Rhonda Serhan left the meeting.

**CORPORATE
SERVICES:**

2. Tax Recovery Sale

Denniece Crout described the tax collection process authorized by the Municipal Government Act (MGA) noting that when a property is 3 years in arrears and all avenues for payments have been exhausted, a municipality may undertake a tax auction to address the outstanding arrears.

Ms. Crout noted that for the property, located at NE-15-34-6-W5, all attempts to reconcile the tax account have been fruitless and that the auction of the property is scheduled for November 3, 2015 at 10:00a.m. She noted that Council must set the minimum reserve bid, set any conditions that may apply to the sale and recommended a value of \$638,120.00 be set for the property and that terms of sale are cash, certified cheque or direct electronic payment. The amount of the deposit at the time of sale, must be 10% of bid offer (non-refundable), with the balance to be paid within 30 days of date of sale.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That Council sets the minimum bid for the property, located at NE-15-34-6-W5, in the amount of \$638,120.00 with terms of sale as cash, certified cheque or direct electronic payment and the amount of the deposit at the time of sale, must be 10% of bid offer (non-refundable), with the balance to be paid within 30 days of date of sale.

348/15

CARRIED 7/0

Brad Welygan left the meeting.

MUNICIPAL:

1. Invitation from Wild Rose School Division

Ron Leaf noted that historically, Council meets with the Wild Rose School Division (WRSD) Board of Trustees as part of Council's strategic plan to "promote a collaborative regional services philosophy and enhance provision of regional services to the greatest extent possible".

He noted that at the September 15 Regular Board Meeting, WRSD Board of Trustees proposed meeting with both the Town of Rocky Mountain House Council and Clearwater County Council on January 19, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. and requested Council's availability and topics of interest to discuss at the meeting.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council accepts the January 19, 2016 invitation to meet with WRSD, pending confirmation of the Town of Rocky Mountain House availability.

Councillor Graham requested that WRSD be encouraged to invite the Village of Caroline Council as well.

349/15

CARRIED 7/0

MUNICIPAL:

2. Linear Information Package

Christine Heggart presented a linear tax information package for Council’s review, which she noted is intended to help educate the public on Clearwater County’s linear revenue and what’s at stake should the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) lobby for sharing of linear taxation be successful.

Reeve Alexander provided feedback on the Linear Information Package and noted clarification is needed on the chart on page 3 and that on page 6 landowner compensation should be amended to reflect the impacts of underground pipelines and the sterilization or limitation of future land development.

Discussion took place on the tax rate comparison to other residential areas and the difference between industry and residential within Clearwater County.

Councillor Graham noted that need to work with AAMDC to provide consistent messaging.

Councillor Duncan noted that the loss of linear revenue is significant for rural municipalities and that the ratio of gain is not significant for urban municipalities, particularly Calgary and Edmonton.

Councillor Greenwood noted that the Stronger Together agreement and revenue sharing agreements should be added to the information package, and Councillor Maki noted the addition of the recreation funding agreements should also be added.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council accepts the Linear Information Package, as amended, as information.

350/15

CARRIED 7/0

MUNICIPAL:

3. Red Deer College Requests for Support

Ron Leaf provided an overview of Red Deer College (RDC)’s request for financial support in the amount of \$1.4 million for a Centre for Health, Wellness and Sport. He added that he contacted RDC’s Vice President - Enterprise and Community Relations, Michael Donlevy, and provided Council details in terms of contributions received to date from area municipalities. He noted that no requests have been made to urban municipalities other than the City of Red Deer.

Mr. Leaf noted the City of Red Deer committed \$11.5 million to be paid over 5 years; Red Deer County provided a one-time payment of \$500,000, to be paid in 2015; Lacombe County provided a one-time payment of \$1 million, to be paid in 2015; and that a private philanthropist donated \$5 million to the College.

Councillor Graham noted he is not in favour of granting funding to RDC’s Centre for Health, Wellness and Sport.

Councillor Maki noted he is in favour of providing the letter of support for RDC to become a Polytechnique University.

Councillor Vandermeer noted that the Centre for Health, Wellness and Sport would provide economic development benefit to the central Alberta region.

Councillor Greenwood provided background information on RDC's Central Campus Alberta funding and programs.

Reeve Alexander noted the need to have a presentation from the Central Alberta Campus committee regarding local programming.

Discussion followed regarding the potential for a similar request from Olds College and the nature of Old's College programming and RDC's programming for Clearwater County residents, businesses and industry.

Councillor Duncan noted that he agrees with the economic development benefit of RDC's Centre for Health, Wellness and Sport and that he is in favour of some level of funding.

Councillor Graham noted that this request from RDC is another form of downloading.

Reeve Alexander noted that he is concerned about why central Alberta urban municipalities were not also approached for funding, and is not in favour of funding something that is downloading. He added that he is in favour of writing a letter to the province to support the province's funding.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council accepts the updated RDC College financial support report as information.

351/15

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That the RDC's request for funding remain tabled, pending information from Campus Alberta - Central.

352/15

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council provides a letter of support of the RDC application to the Province of Alberta, to become a Polytechnic University.

353/15

CARRIED 7/0

INFORMATION:

1. CAO's Report

Ron Leaf noted the potential rescheduling of the October 5 Tri-Council meeting.

Discussion took place regarding Council travel to the CAAMDC meeting on October 16 and resolutions.

Councillor Duncan noted that the Clearwater Trails Initiatives work is progressing well and that two new bridges have been installed. He added that there has been loss of signage, including the theft of a 12 foot Sasquatch image. He noted that the installations of the bridges have been successful in funneling OHV traffic, moving users out of the river.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council receives the CAO Report, Public Works Director's Report, Accounts Payable Listing, Councillor Remuneration, and Councillors' Verbal Reports as information.

354/15

CARRIED 7/0

IN CAMERA:

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole to discuss two labour issues at 10:29 A.M.

355/15

CARRIED 7/0

Christine Heggart, Laura Button, Sylvana Crosby, Helge Nome and Kurt Magnus left the meeting.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting 12:30 P.M.

356/15

CARRIED 7/0

**ADJOURNMENT:
12:30 P.M.**

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the Meeting adjourns.

357/15

CARRIED 7/0



REEVE



CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER