

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held July 11, 2017, in the Clearwater County Council Chambers in Rocky Mountain House.

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

Reeve:	Pat Alexander
Councillors:	Earl Graham
	John Vandermeer
	Kyle Greenwood
	Theresa Laing
	Jim Duncan
	Curt Maki

Staff:	
Chief Administrative Officer	Ron Leaf
Recording Secretary	Djurdjica (DJ) Racunica
Director, Agricultural Services & Landcare	Matt Martinson
Manager, Intergovernmental & Legislative Services	Christine Heggart
Director, Finance & Corporate Services	Rodney Boyko
Community Relations Advisor	Jerald Pratt
Director, Planning & Development	Rick Emmons
Manager, Planning & Development	Keith McCrae

Media:	Laura Button
	Helge Nome

Delegation:	Darryl Park
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Public:	Michelle Swanson
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**AGENDA
APPROVAL:**

Additional verbal report added to Item H3 as follows:
- H3 – Canada150 event update.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That the July 11, 2017 Regular Meeting Agenda is adopted as amended.

269/17

CARRIED 7/0

**CONFIRMATION
OF MINUTES:**

1. June 27, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That the Minutes of the June 27, 2017 Regular Meeting are adopted as circulated.

270/17

CARRIED 7/0

2. June 27, 2017 Public Hearing Minutes

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That the Minutes of the June 27, 2017 Public Hearing are adopted as circulated.

271/17

CARRIED 7/0

**AGRICULTURAL
SERVICES &
LANDCARE:**

1. Arbutus and Bingley Community Hall Grass Mowing Request

M. Martinson presented letters of request from the Arbutus and Bingley community halls to provide grass mowing services. The County has historically provided a grass mowing service to cemeteries and community halls throughout the County upon request and approval of Council.

Keanna Nelson joined the meeting.

M. Martinson responded to questions regarding funding options, cost tracking of maintaining this program and distinguishable difference between cemeteries and community halls.

Council expressed views that community halls should be maintained by the community, not by the County and that options for providing the service under a cost-share scenario would be a possibility

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council declines the request to direct staff to include the Arbutus and Bingley community hall grounds in the yearly grass mowing program.

272/17

CARRIED 7/0

DELEGATIONS:

1. Clearwater Realty Ltd. Delegation

R. Leaf introduced Darryl Park, owner of Clearwater Realty Ltd. and Summit Video, who discussed the importance of rural internet to Real Estate sales.

D. Park noted the increasing demand for rural internet services with sales of properties in the Clearwater County area, with more individuals and businesses working remotely. He added that internet services enable residents to install surveillance on their property and to enhance safety and security.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council receives the information from the Clearwater Realty Ltd. Delegation as presented.

273/17

CARRIED 7/0

Cindy Easton and Kirby Bigchild joined the meeting. Darryl Park left the meeting.

2. Clearwater Regional Housing Foundation

J. Pratt introduced Cindy Easton from the Clearwater Regional Housing Foundation and Kirby Bigchild with the Rocky Native Friendship Centre.

As a new not-for-profit organization in the Clearwater area, its mission is “to provide leadership in housing options and opportunities that meet the economic and social needs in the Clearwater Region”.

C. Easton presented the outcomes of a recent study on housing needs in the Rocky Mountain House and Clearwater region and identified the lack of housing from a mixed market economy. Discussions took place regarding needs for housing at various levels, including affordable housing.

She noted that the Clearwater Regional Housing Foundation is seeking a board member-at-large, who will be selected at the first AGM in September.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council receives the information from the Clearwater Regional Housing Foundation Delegation as presented.

274/17

CARRIED 7/0

Kimberley Worthington joined the meeting. Cindy Easton and Kirby Bigchild left the meeting.

3. Central Alberta Economic Partnership

J. Pratt introduced Kimberley Worthington, executive director of the Central Alberta Economic Partnership Ltd. (CAEP), which is a regional alliance of municipalities, First Nations, business agencies and organizations that support economic development in the Central Alberta Region.

K. Worthington presented CAEP’s history, vision, mission and economic development tools available for municipalities, as well as CAEP’s future plans.

Discussions took place regarding CAEP’s challenges, including funding and membership management, along with developing tools for varied municipalities (Villages, Towns, Cities).

Additional discussion took place on municipalities choosing to leave the CAEP partnership.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That Council receives the information from the Central Alberta Economic Partnership Delegation as information.

275/17

CARRIED 7/0

Kimberley Worthington left the meeting.

**COMMUNITY &
PROTECTIVE
SERVICE:**

**1. Rural Alberta Innovation & Learning (RAIL) Commons
Sponsorship Request**

J. Pratt presented a sponsorship request from the Rural Alberta Innovation & Learning (RAIL) Commons, a three-day learning commons focused on rural economic and community development.

J. Pratt noted the conference is an opportunity for councillors, mayors, CAOs, EDOs, community development professionals, and students from across the province to engage in various rurally focused topics such as:

community and economic development, sustainability planning, social policy, water, continuing care, recruitment and retention, business succession, aboriginal relations and the changing agricultural landscape.

Discussion took place on the value of a silver level sponsorship, including the opportunity to host a booth at the convention and to have two attendees, either Councillors or Administration.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council approves \$2,500 funding request for silver level sponsorship for RAIL Commons economic development conference in Olds, AB September 29 – October 1, 2017.

276/17

CARRIED 7/0

INFORMATION:

1. CAO's Report

R. Leaf requested Council consider lobbying with the AAMDC regarding current AUMA resolutions regarding the MSI and provincial revenue sharing. Administration will provide an update on this, as well as any other AUMA resolutions, once they are released.

3. Councillor's Verbal Report

Councillor Duncan provided an update on Canada150 events and noted that a painted picture of Rocky Mountain House was gifted as a thank you for Council's support in making this event a success.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council receives the CAO Report, Public Works Director's Report, Councillor's Verbal Report, Clearwater County October 17, 2016 Tri-Council Meeting Minutes, Accounts Payable and Councillor Remuneration Listing as information.

277/17

CARRIED 7/0

Jerald Pratt, Laura Button, Helge Nome, Keanna Nelson, and Michelle Swanson left the meeting.

IN CAMERA:

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole to discuss Item I1 – Land Development Third Party Interest and I2 – Advice from Administration, in camera in accordance with Section 197(2) the Municipal Government Act and Section 21 (1), 39(1)(a) and Section 40 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act at 11:02 am.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting at 12:21 pm.

278/17

CARRIED 7/0

RECESS:

Reeve Alexander recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:21 pm.

CALL TO ORDER: Reeve Alexander called the meeting to order at 12:46 pm with the following people present: Councillors Graham, Duncan, Vandermeer, Laing, Maki and Greenwood; Ron Leaf, Christine Heggart, Rodney Boyko, Rick Emmons, Keith McCrae, Laura Button, Keanna Nelson, Helge Nome and DJ Racunica

MUNICIPAL: 1. Broadband – Administrative Report

R. Leaf presented a review of Council's dialogue and direction related to broadband service in Clearwater County, along with background information on federal and provincial grant programs, CRTC regulations and programs and the Supernet. He also provided an overview of Administration's interpretation of Council's desire to enhance broadband service in an effort to support and enhance quality of life, economic competitiveness and opportunities for training and professional development.

R. Leaf reviewed the Intelligent Communities Foundation (ICF) and described the role of a 'broadband economy' and encouraged Council to endorse ICF's six principles -Knowledge Workforce, Innovation, Digital Equality, Sustainability, Advocacy, Broadband.

R. Leaf further summarized various broadband policy options, including development policies, networks for government, public-private partnerships, dark fibre and open access networks and direct competition. He further described models and best practices used by other municipalities as well as advocacy efforts, and proposed development of a broadband infrastructure policy in which: the County capital investment compliments existing ISP and Telco mobility and broadband services and supports fibre and wireless services; does not create a municipal utility to compete with private business; and, that enhances cellular/mobility services.

Discussion took place regarding the need for 'world class' internet services in Clearwater County, that broadband service is a required basic utility and the timeframe required to complete a broadband policy framework.

R. Leaf responded to questions about internet speeds and policy objectives.

Discussion took place on the Supernet contract, and that the County's policy should avoid direct competition, balance the opportunity for investment in fiber vs wireless technologies, and provide opportunities for companies of various scope and service provision (i.e. mobility or ISP).

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council directs Administration to coordinate a west-central Alberta community lobby to request Telus advance the development of Caroline to Rocky Mountain House fibre loop, to provide redundancy.

279/17

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council adopts the 6 principles of the Intelligent Communities Foundations' indicators (Knowledge Workforce, Innovation, Digital Equality, Sustainability, Advocacy, Broadband) to help guide the broadband policy framework development.

280/17

CARRIED 7/0

281/17

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council directs Administration work towards drafting a Broadband Policy Framework.

CARRIED 6/1

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council directs Administration to review FCM, AUMA and AAMDC resolutions regarding broadband internet and provide advice to Council on whether Clearwater County should develop a resolution for presentation to the AAMDC/FMC supporting provincial and federal investment in broadband infrastructure in rural Alberta.

282/17

CARRIED 7/0

Christine Heggart, Rodney Boyko, Rick Emmons, Keith McCrae, Laura Button, Keanna Nelson, Helge Nome and DJ Racunica left the meeting.

IN CAMERA:

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole to discuss Item I3 – Labour – Council, I4 – Labour – CAO Performance Evaluation up in camera in accordance with Section 197(2) the Municipal Government Act and Section 21 (1), 39(1)(a) and Section 40 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act at 2:16 pm.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting at 4:44 pm.

283/17

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That the Council accepts the CAO Performance Evaluation with two amendments as discussed and authorizes the Reeve and Deputy Reeve to sign the CAO performance evaluation.

284/17

CARRIED 7/0

ADJOURNMENT: COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the Meeting adjourns.
4:45 pm

285/17

CARRIED 7/0





REEVE
ACTING CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER