

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held September 08, 2014 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
	Theresa Laing
	Kyle Greenwood
	John Vandermeer
Acting CAO:	Rudy Huisman
Recording Secretary:	Tracy Haight
Director, CPS:	Ted Hickey
Director, Public Works:	Marshall Morton
Staff:	Erik Hansen
	Kurt Magnus
	Katie Lutz
Media:	Sarah Maetche
	Helge Nome
	Dania Gravelle
Public:	Charles MacDonald

**AGENDA
APPROVAL:**

Councillor Duncan requested addition of a verbal report on the Ag Services Board Central Zone Fall Gathering Meeting as item F5.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That the September 08, 2014 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted as amended.

330/14 CARRIED 7/0

**CONFIRMATION
OF MINUTES:**

1. August 25, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the Minutes of the August 25, 2014 Regular Meeting be accepted.

331/14 CARRIED 7/0

2. August 25, 2014 Public Hearing Minutes

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That the Minutes of the August 25, 2014 Public Hearing be accepted.

332/14 CARRIED 7/0

PUBLIC WORKS: 1. Development Request

Erik Hansen presented proposed amendments by Pidherney's Trucking Ltd. to the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board (SDAB) conditions on a haul route for an undeveloped gravel pit located at SW 14 39 08 W5.

Ron Leaf and Mike Bell joined the meeting.

Mr. Hansen noted the development permit for the gravel pit was conditionally approved by the SDAB on April 12, 1996. The Notice of Decision from the SDAB outlines several conditions that address road use and road structure that is now typically dealt with by administration rather than Council.

As the conditions state the applicant is required to enter into a development agreement to address road use with the Council prior to proceeding with development, administration suggests that the applicant enter into an agreement with Clearwater County in order to comply with current day policies. As policies and procedures have changed since 1996, administration suggests that the applicant and Clearwater County enter into a Road Use Agreement.

Mr. Hansen stated the applicant also proposes road upgrades that exceed the requirement of the SDAB's condition; utilizing only a portion of the original haul route with a change in the access point; and keeping the posted 80km speed limit for the revised route.

Mr. Hansen and Mr. Morton responded to questions from Council and noted the alternate route will have significantly less impact on residents. Mr. Morton noted Planning reviewed the proposed amendments with no major concerns. Mr. Hansen noted upgrades to the portion of Range Road 8-0 is included in the 2016 budget.

Discussion followed and Council noted although the proposed route is more suitable, there are concerns with legal issues and possible contravention of SDAB's 1996 Notice of Decision.

Ron Leaf and Charles MacDonald left the meeting.

333/14

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council tables Item D.1. Development Request pending legal opinion.

CARRIED 7/0

Rudy Huisman introduced Dania Gravelle, B94 Radio News Correspondent, to Council.

2. Ridgeland Estates Yield Sign

Kurt Magnus stated a STOP sign is currently located at the intersection on Township Road 39-4 and Ridgeland Estates access road. Routine maintenance inspections determined that a YIELD sign would be sufficient as there is only one residential approach south of the STOP sign and no roadway to the west. Administration recommends replacing the STOP sign with a YIELD sign at this intersection and amending the Traffic Control Device Bylaw # 804/04 Regulatory Sign Map.

Mr. Magnus and Mr. Morton responded to questions from Council and noted the majority of traffic flow is to the east.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council approves the amendment to the Traffic Control Device Bylaw# 804/04 Regulatory Sign Map.

334/14

CARRIED 7/0

3. AAMDC Provincial Water/Wastewater Grants Resolution

Kurt Magnus presented the draft "Reinstatement of Funding for Water and Wastewater Systems" resolution for Council's review and approval.

Discussion followed on the criteria and submission process for resolutions. Council noted the resolution should state that the provincial government underfunded the program initially; include further preamble that states enhancement of program funding is required; and that the initial program did not properly meet current or future needs of municipalities.

Councillor Vandermeer indicated he would speak to the resolution at the District Two Central Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (CAAMDC) meeting in October and, if required, the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC) meeting in November.

Mike Bell left the meeting.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council approves the “Reinstatement of Funding for Water and Wastewater Systems” resolution as amended and authorizes submission of the resolution to the CAAMDC Resolution Committee.

335/14

CARRIED 7/0

COMMUNITY &
PROTECTIVE
SERVICES:

1. Verbal Report: Partial Activation of EOC on September 4, 2014

Katie Lutz reported on the West Country helicopter tour during the August long weekend and noted Alberta Environment Sustainable Resource Development representatives were impressed by the amount of recreational users in the area.

Ted Hickey provided a verbal report on the partial activation of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) on September 4, 2014 at 11:30 a.m. due to a telephone and cellular service disruption that affected areas in Clearwater County including Leslieville, Withrow, Condor, Rocky Mountain House, Sunchild, and Nordegg.

The EOC assessed the situation, determined objectives, and addressed concerns. Various departments and agencies maintained communication thru radio and face-to-face contact; and established alternative measures to maintain public access to emergency services. At 10:00 p.m. the EOC was deactivated with telephone and cellular service was restored. No incidents were reported during the outage.

Mr. Hickey responded to questions from Council regarding availability of ambulance service, satellite phones and radios during the outage.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council accepts the information as presented.

336/14

CARRIED 7/0

Dennis Ross joined the meeting. Kurt Magnus, Erik Hansen, Marshall Morton left the meeting.

2. Clearwater Forest Recreational Trail Initiative

Ted Hickey provided information on the Clearwater Forest Recreational Trails Initiative (CFRTI) and stated the group is applying for a grant from the National Trails Coalition (NTC) to fund their multi-use trail project. In order to strengthen the NTC grant application, CFRTI requests a commitment from Clearwater County to fund the project as the NTC favourably considers collaborative funding in the grant approval process.

Mr. Hickey provided information on the Rocky/Nordegg Trail System, noted Clearwater County received a total of \$150,000 in grant funding, and contributed land valued at \$125,588.48 for its development. Mr. Hickey stated as at December 31, 2013, Clearwater County allocated \$75,000 to the operating reserve, which is also included in the 2014 budget, for the trail system and as of August 31, 2014, the funds have not been spent. Mr. Hickey stated, considering the similarity of the projects and availability of funds, Council may wish to consider reallocating funds from the Rocky/Nordegg Trail System, or apply contingency funds in the 2014 Operating Budget, to the CFRTI project.

Councillor Duncan provided details on CFRTI's fund raising efforts and information on the proposed locations for the trail system. Councillor Duncan responded to questions from Council and noted potential connection of the two trail systems is limited due to lack of river crossings. Discussion followed on management, liability issues, and usage fees of trail systems. Councillor Duncan noted as the trail system is on Crown land, usage fees are unlikely; the County is not required to oversee management; and liability issues of trails on pipeline roads and lease sites are addressed by industry.

Discussion continued on the advantages and value of trail systems in the area. Councillor Duncan suggested a \$25,000 contribution would meet the requirements for collaborative funding and noted that the CFRTI additionally requests services-in-kind from the County, such as bookkeeping, for this project.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council allocates \$25,000 from the Rocky/Nordegg Trail System Reserve to the CFRTI project.

337/14

CARRIED 7/0

3. Sundre Petroleum Operators Group (SPOG) Neighbours' Day Event

Katie Lutz stated the Sundre Petroleum Operators Group (SPOG) "Neighbours' Day" event is on Friday, September 12. Ms. Lutz noted Councillor Graham will represent Clearwater County on the guest panel and staff from the Public Works and Ag Services & Landcare departments will attend the Clearwater County display booth.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council authorizes any or all Councillors attendance at the SPOG "Neighbours' Day Event" on September 12.

338/14

CARRIED 7/0

1. Improvement of Internet Broadband Access

Ted Hickey provided background information on Council's efforts to increase internet access for business and residents in Clearwater County.

Mr. Hickey stated the federal government is developing a new program, "Connecting Canadians", that will provide funds to internet service providers (ISP's), private, and public entities that operate broadband infrastructure, for increasing and strengthening rural broadband access across Canada.

The Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC) will write to Industry Canada to encourage the Minister to consider the following in the program development: 1) allow municipalities a voice in the project selection process, 2) include measures to hold ISP's accountable for service delivery, and 3) link funding with a guarantee for results.

AAMDC ask that rural municipalities also write to Industry Canada to encourage consideration of the same in the development of the program.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That Council authorizes a letter to the Minister of Industry encouraging the Minister to consider additional details to the "Connecting Canadians" program.

339/14

CARRIED 7/0

INFORMATION:

Councillor Duncan provided a verbal report on the Ag Services Board Central Zone Fall Gathering Meeting that he attended as the Central Zone Rep. Councillor Duncan noted discussion of resolutions took place regarding three areas of concern as follows: 1) issues with ergot and requirement for feed process regulations, 2) closure of Fish and Wildlife offices and downloading of services to municipalities, and 3) clubroot and requirement for increase of insurance premiums if best management practices are not followed.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That the Verbal Report, Upcoming Events, Public Works Director's Report, Accounts Payable Listing and Councillors Remuneration be accepted as information.

340/14

CARRIED 7/0

**ADJOURNMENT:
11:30 P.M.**

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That the Meeting adjourns.

341/14

CARRIED 7/0


REEVE


CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER