

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held January 28, 2014 in the Clearwater County Council Chambers in Rocky Mountain House.

CALL TO ORDER: The Meeting was called to order at 9:01 A.M. by Reeve Alexander with the following being present:

Reeve:	Pat Alexander
Councillors:	Earl Graham
	John Vandermeer
	Theresa Laing
	Curt Maki
Chief Administrative Officer:	Ron Leaf
Director, Public Works:	Marshall Morton
Recording Secretary:	Tracy Haight
	Erik Hansen
	Brad Welygan
	Kurt Magnus
	Trevor Duley
	Dennis Ross
	Helge Nome
Media:	Sarah Maetche
	Rianne DeLange

Reeve Alexander noted Councillor Duncan and Councillor Greenwood are attending the 2014 ASB Provincial Conference and will not be attending today's meeting.

AGENDA: Ron Leaf requested an addition as Item F2 – FCM Conference 2014.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That the January 28, 2014 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted.

029/14 CARRIED 5/0

**CONFIRMATION
OF MINUTES:**

1. January 13, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That the Minutes of the January 13, 2014 Regular Meeting be accepted as amended.

030/14 CARRIED 5/0

2. January 13, 2014 Bylaw 982/13 Public Hearing Minutes

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the Minutes of the January 13, 2014 Public Hearing be accepted.

031/14 CARRIED 5/0

**PUBLIC
WORKS:**

1. Policy Review: Road Use for Industrial/Commercial Truck Hauls

Marshall Morton presented an amendment to Clearwater County's current policy on road use for industrial/commercial truck hauls that will clearly define industry and commercial user's responsibility to assist in public safety during a truck haul on Clearwater County roads.

Councillor Laing asked for a definition of a "snow event". Mr. Morton stated a snow event is generally more than 10 cm of snow. Discussion followed on

recent snow events and Clearwater County's expectations from industry and commercial users to maintain roads during truck hauls.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council approves the amendment to the Road Use Policy for Industrial/Commercial Truck Hauls as presented.

032/14

CARRIED 5/0

2. AAMDC Call for Input: Local Road Bridge Program Changes

Kurt Magnus stated the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC) is requesting additional comments from municipalities on a joint report with Alberta Transportation that recommends changes to how local bridge structures are both managed and funded.

Mr. Magnus noted while the report suggests that the study would look into how bridge structures are managed and funded, the report does not address the significant unfunded liability or increased funding from the provincial government.

Mr. Magnus noted the proposed comments are based on Council's views and emphasize provincial funding must be reinstated.

Discussion followed on affordability of provincial bridge standards by municipalities; bridge inspections remaining under provincial jurisdiction; and the recommendation for the AAMDC and municipalities to collectively present alternative engineering standards for bridge structures.

Discussion continued on AAMDC's ability to provide support to all municipalities as each municipality has different priorities regarding bridges; liability issues with bridge standards; and funding for bridges relative to bridge deficit and inventory.

Council recommended discussions take place with the Alberta Transportation Minister on the necessity for provincial bridge funding.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That Council approves comments as presented and approves submittal of comments to the AAMDC.

033/14

CARRIED 5/0

Discussion followed on recent lobbyist action on the subject of wide-base single tires. Council requested a report on this issue from administration as it is believed the tires' heavier footprint is damaging to roads.

Brad Welygan, Marshall Morton, Erik Hansen, and Kurt Magnus left the meeting.

AGRICULTURE SERVICES & LANDCARE:

1. Agricultural Fieldhouse Committee Appointments

Ron Leaf stated Rocky Mountain House Agriculture Society will be meeting to discuss the Agriculture Field House Steering Committee's terms of reference and a feasibility study for an agriculture field house.

Mr. Leaf noted Reeve Alexander, Councillor Duncan, and Councillor Maki were appointed to the Agriculture Field House Committee at the 2013 Organizational Meeting. Clarification on the appointment of an alternate member is requested.

Mr. Leaf stated Councillor Duncan indicated his interest via email as a member on the committee.

Councillor Maki indicated his interest as a member on the committee.

Reeve Alexander indicated his interest as a member on the committee.

Ballots were distributed and counted by staff with Reeve Alexander and Councillor Duncan being the Committee members; Councillor Maki is the alternate.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council appoints Council Maki as alternate member on the Agricultural Fieldhouse Committee.

034/14

CARRIED 5/0

CORPORATE
SERVICES:

2. FCM Conference 2014

Ron Leaf requested direction from Council on attendance at the 2014 FCM Conference. Discussion followed and Councillor Duncan and Councillor Greenwood's absence was noted.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council tables Item F2 to February 11 Council meeting.

035/14

CARRIED 5/0

Denniece Crout joined the meeting.

1. Municipal Tax Exemption Bylaw 983/14 – Leslieville Elks Lodge

Denniece Crout presented Bylaw 983/14 exempting Leslieville Elks from municipal taxation on their property. The bylaw does not exempt the education component of property taxes which is estimated at \$600 annually.

Rick Emmons and Kim Jakowski joined the meeting.

Should Council wish to reimburse the Leslieville Elks for the education component, changes to the 'Capital Grant Funding for Community Halls/Associations' policy are required.

Council suggested comparing other municipalities' policies for granting funds for the education tax portion to community halls and associations and reviewing Clearwater County's current 'Capital Grant Funding for Community Halls/Associations' policy.

Councillor Vandermeer moved **FIRST READING** of Bylaw 983/14.

036/14

CARRIED 5/0

Councillor Graham moved **SECOND READING** of Bylaw 983/14.

037/14

CARRIED 5/0

Councillors present agreed unanimously to consider third reading for Bylaw 983/14.

Councillor Graham moved **THIRD READING** of Bylaw 983/14.

038/14

CARRIED 5/0

Denniece Crout left the meeting.

2. Update Fee Schedule for Land Use Amendment, Subdivision, and Development Fees

Kim Jakowski presented the proposed fee schedule for land use amendment, subdivision, and development fees with the recommendation that the fees become effective February 18, 2014 to allow time for advertising and communication to the public.

Ms. Jakowski explained the current policy for refunding Subdivision and Development Appeal Fees and stated the recommended change to the policy, as "Subdivision and Development Appeal Fee (SDAB) \$300.00 (GST exempt) Fee will be non-refundable.

Staff responded to questions from Council on the communication strategy for advertising the new fee schedule. The new fee schedule will be posted on the Clearwater County's website and at the Planning Department front counter; advertised in the Western Star, Mountaineer, and the Sundre Round-Up for two consecutive weeks; and published in the Clearwater County newsletter.

Staff responded to questions from Council and discussion followed.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council approves the proposed fee schedule for Land Use Amendment, Subdivision and Development Fees, effective February 18, 2014.

039/14

CARRIED 5/0

Rick Emmons and Kim Jakowski left the meeting.

Reeve Alexander introduced Rianne deLange, news correspondent for B-94 Radio, Rocky Mountain House.

COMMUNITY SERVICES:

1. Sunchild Horse Capture Program Funding Request

Deborah Fluet, Pembina Safety and Environment Manager, presented information on the Sunchild Horse Capture Program and stated Weyerhaeuser Pembina Timberlands, in partnership with the RCMP, is requesting that Clearwater County contribute \$10,000 towards the round up of horses that are on the provincial secondary highway formerly known as the Sunchild Road.

Ms. Fluet clarified that this program is not solely funded by Weyerhaeuser, it is a group program and funding has been received from Brazeau County and TAQA North. Ms. Fluet noted sufficient funding to capture at least 60 horses must be received by March 31, 2014.

Ms. Fluet provided background information on incidents involving traffic and stray horses on the Sunchild Road and explained the purpose, management, and operation of the program. Alberta Environment Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD) has issued special license, specific to the area, to capture the stray horses.

Discussion followed on criteria for licenses from ESRD; ESRD's inability to provide funding for the horse capture program due to "conflict of relationship" with the license holder; and horses in the specific area are not considered feral by ESRD as some of the horses have branding by owners.

Ms. Fluet responded to questions from Council and discussion continued on the responsibility of stray and feral horses belonging to the RCMP and ESRD.

Council noted they will consider lobbying for legislation from the provincial government to deal with this issue.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That Council denies the request for funding for the Sunchild Horse Capture Program.

040/14

CARRIED 5/0

2. Ferrier Community Request – Crime Prevention Meeting Funding

Trevor Duley stated the Ferrier Community Association (FCA) would like to hold a Community Crime Prevention meeting at the Lou Soppit Community Centre in Rocky Mountain House. The objectives of the meeting are to raise awareness of crimes in the area; and discuss methods to eliminate crime in the area, type of action to take when a crime in progress is noticed, and ways to make the community a safer place to live. The anticipated outcome of the meeting is to better prepare the public to deter criminal activity; show support for effective law enforcement on aboriginal land; demand ineffective laws and judicial practices be adjusted to protect the public; and inspire local citizens to form a delegation to encourage elected officials to implement the required changes.

FCA is requesting Clearwater County's support for the meeting and funding in the amount of \$1000. Mr. Duley noted as criminal activity is under the jurisdiction of the Provincial and Federal Government, and that the municipal role is limited, staff recommends Council provide funding to the Clearwater County Policing Advisory Committee (CCPAC). The intent is the Committee would work with the FCA and community stakeholders to establish and facilitate a crime prevention meeting at the Lou Soppit Centre.

Discussion followed on a previous a meeting between the FCA and CCPAC, CCPAC's desire to enhance and expand perspectives on crime prevention; and on crime issues throughout the community and the county.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That Council approves funding CCPAC with \$1000 to organize a crime prevention meeting with the FCA.

041/14

CARRIED 5/0

3. Clearwater County CAEP Economic Indicators 2013

Trevor Duley presented the report from Central Alberta Economic Partnership (CAEP) on economic indicators in Clearwater County for 2013. Mr. Duley provided further explanation and definitions on several terms used in the report.

Discussion followed and Council suggested CAEP representatives attend Council at a future date for further discussions on the report.

Mr. Duley noted the information from the report can be used in future economic summits.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council accepts the report as information.

042/14

CARRIED 5/0

MUNICIPAL:

1. AAMDC Spring Convention – Lobby Opportunities

Ron Leaf stated there are several issues and concerns that Council has discussed in the past six to twelve months which they may wish to address with provincial ministers and/or agencies attending the AAMDC Spring Convention.

Mr. Leaf outlined the current lobby issues and noted Council has indicated the need for an O'Chiese RCMP sub-office and the vacant RCMP highway patrol position as top priorities for discussion with RCMP and the Solicitor General.

Discussion followed on the effectiveness of lobbying during the AAMDC convention and that concerns, particularly West County management issues, may be more effectively addressed with individual meetings with ministers on an alternate date.

Discussion continued on addressing linear pooling and bridge funding with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and as these issues are province wide, Council would like to question the Minister on specifics related to rural municipalities.

Discussion continued on issues and concerns covered under Alberta Environment Sustainable Resource Development (ESRD). Reeve Alexander noted a meeting with the Minister of Environment to discuss environmentally significant areas in the land use framework would be beneficial.

Reeve Alexander noted the importance of Council members approaching ministers and members of the legislative assembly at the convention to present issues and concerns in Clearwater County.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the CAO contact the RCMP regarding the possibility of meeting in May or June, 2014.

043/14

CARRIED 5/0

INFORMATION:

1. Information Items

Council discussed proposed dates for the Rocky Chamber of Commerce meeting with Council and noted preference for February 25.

Councillor Graham recommended councillor attendance at the Land Use 2014 Conference. Ron Leaf noted administration will bring information on the conference to Council on February 11.

Councillor Graham inquired on the South Saskatchewan Regional Plan Review. Mr. Leaf noted administration will provide an update to Council on February 11.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That the CAO's Report, Public Works Director's Report, and Accounts Payable Listing, is accepted as information.

044/14

CARRIED 5/0

**COMMITTEE
REPORTS:**

Reeve Alexander provided a report from the Physician Recruitment Committee.

Helge Nome, Rianne deLange, Sarah Maetche, and Dennis Ross left the meeting. Todd Becker, Heather Bretz and Marshall Morton joined the meeting.

IN CAMERA:

1. In Camera

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM:

That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole to discuss land and labour issues at 11:11 A.M.

045/14

CARRIED 5/0

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting at 12:52 P.M.

046/14

CARRIED 5/0

ADJOURNMENT:
12:52 P.M.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER:

That the Meeting adjourns.

047/14

CARRIED 5/0


REEVE
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER