

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held March 11, 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:	Pat Alexander
Councillors:	Curt Maki
	Jim Duncan
	Theresa Laing
	Earl Graham
	Kyle Greenwood
	John Vandermeer
CAO:	Ron Leaf
Recording Secretary:	Tracy Haight
Administration:	Trevor Duley
Media:	Sarah Maetche
	Rianne De Lang
Public:	Dennis Ross

**OATH OF
OFFICE
& COMMITTEE/
BOARD**

APPOINTMENTS: Ron Leaf administered the official Oath of Office to Councillor John Vandermeer.

Council reviewed Councillor Vandermeer's appointment to the following:

- Agenda and Priorities Committee
- Caroline and District Recreation and Agricultural Society (Alternate)
- Caroline Complex Development Committee
- Central Alberta Economic Partnership
- Clearwater Regional Emergency Management Agency Committee
- Clearwater Regional Fire Rescue Services Board
- Common Ground Pow Wow Committee (Alternate)
- Community Peace Officer Service Level Review Committee
- Municipal Planning Commission
- Pest and Weed Control Appeal Board
- Physician Recruitment and Retention Committee
- Rocky Mountain House Airport Commission
- Rocky Mountain House Hospital Committee
- West Central Alberta Stakeholders
- West Fraser Timber Advisory Committee (Alternate)

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council appoints Councillor Vandermeer to the above-mentioned Committees, Boards, and Commissions effective March 10, 2014.

**AGENDA
APPROVAL:**

Ron Leaf requested an addition as G3 – Call for Expression of Interest.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That the March 11, 2014 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted as amended.

096/14

CARRIED 7/0

**CONFIRMATION
OF MINUTES:**

1. February 25, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That the Minutes of the February 25, 2014 Regular Meeting be accepted.

097/14

CARRIED 7/0

**COMMUNITY
& PROTECTIVE
SERVICES:**

1. Policy Amendment: Capital Grant Funding for Community Halls & Associations

Council reviewed the proposed amendment to the *Capital Grant Funding for Community Halls/Associations* policy. The amendment to Procedure Item 1, directs administration to annually reimburse the Leslieville Elks for their portion of the Alberta education component of their tax bill.

Trevor Duley stated the amendment would not set precedent for other community halls or associations in this region.

Discussion followed and staff responded to questions from Council.

Ron Leaf explained Council does not fund operational costs for community halls and associations.

Trevor Duley confirmed non-profit organizations in the Town of Rocky Mountain House fall under Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation (COPTEr).

Rick Emmons, Keith McCrae, Brad Welygan, and Rhonda Serhan joined the meeting.

Discussion followed on listing the amendment to the policy as a separate procedure item.

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That Council approves the draft amendment as a separate item in the *Capital Grant Funding for Community Halls & Associations* policy.

098/14

CARRIED 7/0

MUNICIPAL:

1. AAMDC Spring 2014 Resolutions

Ron Leaf provided background information and administrative comments on ten AAMDC Spring 2014 Resolutions.

Discussion followed on the resolutions related to Clearwater County.

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That Council accepts the Spring 2014 AAMDC Resolutions review as information.

099/14

CARRIED 7/0

2. Genesis Reciprocal Insurance Exchange

Ron Leaf stated the Genesis Reciprocal Insurance Exchange Annual General Meeting takes place on March 17 at the Shaw Conference Centre.

Mr. Leaf confirmed Councillors Maki and Greenwood's attendance at the Genesis Annual General Meeting.

Mr. Leaf provided administrative comments on Genesis' actuarial and financial reports. Discussion followed and Mr. Leaf noted questions regarding the reports can be asked at the annual general meeting.

Discussion followed on the general effects of claims on insurance premiums and Mr. Leaf suggested asking the Genesis Executive Director or Board if there will be any impact on municipal insurance premiums considering the extensive losses incurred in Alberta over the past 5 to 10 years.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council accepts the information as presented.

100/14

CARRIED 7/0

3. Provincial Budget Overview

Ron Leaf provided a summary of the Government of Alberta's provincial budget for the 2014 – 15 fiscal year and AAMDC's perspective regarding the budget.

Mr. Leaf noted administrative comments on changes to several provincial programs including the Municipal Sustainability Initiative (MSI) Capital Fund.

Rhonda Serhan provided information on the MSI Capital fund and the Basic Municipal Transportation Grant.

Mr. Leaf noted the province increased Clearwater County's Education Requisition by \$117,729 from 2013. The total amount for the 2014 requisition is \$16,365,272.

Discussion followed on the impact of provincial shortfalls and downloading of programs on municipalities.

Mr. Leaf noted impacts of the provincial budget on Clearwater County's operations or capital plans are not evident at this time, however Administration will keep Council advised.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council accepts the information as presented.

101/14

CARRIED 7/0

PLANNING:

2. Nordegg Chamber of Commerce Request for Funding

Rick Emmons and Trevor Duley presented a request for \$4,500 from Nordegg Chamber of Commerce to cover 50% of the cost to print and distribute brochures.

Mr. Duley noted Nordegg Chamber of Commerce will include the Clearwater County logo as advertisement on the brochure. Mr. Duley noted advertising funds for Nordegg are available from the contingency account.

Discussion followed on Clearwater County's support of tourism by contributing to joint funding initiatives, rather than specific projects. Discussion continued on the alignment of the request with Clearwater County's strategic plan; the amount of funding requested; the value for money spent; and Clearwater County's role is not to subsidize businesses' operating costs.

102/14

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That Council approves one time funding in the amount of \$2500 for the printing and distribution of Nordegg brochures.

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That Council authorizes allocating \$2500 from the contingency account for the printing and distribution of Nordegg brochures.

103/14

CARRIED 7/0

Rhonda Serhan left the meeting. Lawrence Stewart joined the meeting.

PLANNING:

3. Call for Expression of Interest

Keith McCrae stated the Government of Alberta is accepting applications for a candidate roster from which it will select members to participate in review panels for land-use regional plans, once the plans have been implemented.

Discussion followed on the workings of the review panel and Mr. McCrae noted the applications for the review panel are not the same as the applications for the Regional Advisory Council (RAC).

Ken Qually and Darrel Kirstein joined the meeting.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM:

That Council accepts the information as presented.

104/14

CARRIED 7/0

INFORMATION:

1. Information Items

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That the CAO's Report, Public Works Director's Report, and Accounts Payable Listing, are accepted as information.

105/14

CARRIED 7/0

Cherie Adolph, Deb Tensen and Harry Tensen joined the meeting.

1. Delegation: Nordegg Residents & Business Owners – Nordegg Lease/Rental Rates

Rick Emmons provided background information concerning lease/rental rates in Nordegg and noted a decision on lease/rental rates is not required at this time.

Mr. Emmons stated a survey was conducted through the website, mail, and email to solicit opinions and perspectives from the citizens of Nordegg on lease/rental rates.

Mr. Emmons provided a summary of the survey results and responded to questions from Council, stating over 80 surveys were mailed and noted summer residents would receive a survey only if they owned a business in Nordegg.

Cheri Adolph suggested Council reengage the Nordegg residents in a review of the development plan. Ms. Adolph noted Nordegg would benefit from affordable housing and suggested allowing for a gated modular home community.

Ms. Adolph noted the effect of a lease/rental rate increase is undetermined, as it would depend on whether the rate increase was for a commercial or residential building. Hugh increases would significantly impact businesses and residents and could affect growth and development. Ms. Adolph noted many businesses in Nordegg are seasonal and cannot afford the expense of a year-round operation.

Discussion followed on the future of Nordegg development; encouraging development that would attract young families; and the effect of the economy on future development.

Trevor Duley joined the meeting. Brad Welygan left the meeting.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council accepts the information as presented.

106/14 CARRIED 7/0

IN CAMERA:

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole to discuss Legal – Brownlee LLP Workshops; Draft – Strategic Planning Process; and Draft Administrative Report at 11:24 P.M.

107/14 CARRIED 7/0

Dennis Ross, Sarah Maetche, Rianne De Lang, Rick Emmons, Keith McCrae, Lawrence Stewart, Ken Qually, Darrel Kirstein, Cherie Adolph, Deb Tensen and Harry Tensen left the meeting. Marshall Morton, Kurt Magnus, and Erik Hansen joined the meeting.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting at 12:15 P.M.

108/14 CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That the meeting recess at 12:15 P.M.

109/14 CARRIED 7/0

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 12:55 P.M. by Reeve Alexander.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN:

That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole to discuss Legal – Brownlee LLP Workshops; Draft – Strategic Planning Process; and Draft Administrative Report at 12:55 P.M.

110/14

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN:

That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting at 2:48 P.M.

111/14

CARRIED 7/0


ADJOURNMENT:
2:48 P.M.

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That the Meeting adjourns.

112/14

CARRIED 7/0


REEVE


CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER