

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held November 08, 2016, 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
	Jim Duncan
	Kyle Greenwood
	Theresa Laing
	Curt Maki

Staff:	
Acting Chief Administrative Officer	Rick Emmons
Recording Secretary	Tracy Haight
Director, Community and Protective Services:	Ted Hickey
Director, Corporate Services	Rodney Boyko
Communications	Christine Heggart

Public:	Marianne Cole
	Glen Mohagen

Media:	Logan Schneck
	Keanna Nelson

AGENDA APPROVAL:

The November 08, 2016 Regular Council Meeting agenda was amended as follows:

- Councillor’s Verbal Reports: i) Clearwater Broadband Foundation Committee; and 2) Rural Broadband Workshop as item G3.
- In Camera Labour item (as per Freedom Of Information and Protection of Privacy Act – Section 17(1)) as item I.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN:	That the November 08, 2016 Regular Meeting Agenda be adopted as amended.
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353/16	CARRIED 7/0
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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

1. October 25, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

COUNCILLOR MAKI:	That the Minutes of the October 25, 2016 Regular Meeting are adopted as circulated.
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354/16	CARRIED 7/0
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2. October 25, 2016 Organizational Meeting Minutes

Discussion took place on bylaw requirements for Council committees.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That the Minutes of the October 25, 2016 Organizational Meeting are adopted as circulated.

355/16

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council directs Administration to review Council's Committees list and present the required committee bylaws for Council's consideration.

356/16

CARRIED 7/0

**COMMUNITY &
PROTECTIVE
SERVICES:**

1. 2016 Parade of Lights

Ted Hickey requested direction from Council regarding Councillors' attendance at the Rocky Mountain House Parade of Lights scheduled for November 26.

Mr. Hickey responded to question and explained staff overtime is required for float inspection, setup, delivery and operation on Parade day.

Discussion followed and Councillors Duncan and Vandermeer indicated their availability to attend.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council authorize councillors attendance at the 2016 Parade of Lights and extend invitations to the Town and Village of Caroline Councils to ride the float.

357/16

CARRIED 7/0

2. Broadband Request for Proposal – Focused Study Area

As per Council's direction at the July 27, 2016 Special Council Meeting, Ted Hickey presented recommendations for preliminary requirements of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the development of a conceptual design, budget and business viability model related to the construction or installation of communication infrastructure to enhance high speed internet access within Clearwater County.

The RFP involves four phases, with processes and deliverables identified for each phase, and includes the right to cancel and/or amend the RFP at the conclusion of any phase.

Mr. Hickey noted Phase 1 and 2 are business viability studies for specific geographical locations within Clearwater County. Discussion took place on the wording, "Clearwater/Lacombe boundary" that identifies the study area for Phase 2. The boundary area should be simply identified as the "Clearwater County" boundary to eliminate any confusion.

Mr. Hickey noted progression to Phase 3, which defines the service area(s) and project scope, is dependent on Council's decision to move forward after reviewing outcomes from Phase 1 and 2. Phase 4 completes the RFP process and moves forward on tendering and contract awarding for the project.

Discussion took place on obtaining other studies and reports on communication technology and infrastructure, as produced by Taylor Warwick Consulting Ltd. that outlines preliminary findings for other regions and Clearwater County. There may be value in Council reviewing the documents prior to moving forward on the development of a RFP to avoid duplication of work.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council tables Agenda Item D3 – Broadband Request for Proposal – Focused Study Area pending receipt and review of documents from Taylor Warwick Consulting Ltd.

358/16

CARRIED 7/0

4. Text with 911

Ted Hickey provided information on the new emergency communication service, Text with 911, supported by Red Deer's 911 Emergency Communication Centre. The upgraded service provides individuals with hearing loss/speech impairments with the ability to communicate with 911 using mobile devices via text.

Discussion followed on Council's previous lobby efforts with federal and provincial government and various stakeholders to address limited cell phone coverage and internet access within Clearwater County. There is value in continuing communications with: cell phone service providers to inquire on planned upgrades for increased cell phone coverage in the area and to encourage enhanced coverage; and, internet service providers and government agencies to encourage the development of an internet "loop" in the area and explore licensing options for increased internet access.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council corresponds with cell phone service providers to encourage enhanced cell phone service and inquire on planned upgrades within Clearwater County; and copy correspondence to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.

359/16

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council corresponds with Telus to explore options for: an internet loop connection for fibre and 911 services; and, enhanced licensing for internet access; and, copy correspondence to the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission, Alberta Municipal Affairs, and Service Alberta.

360/16

CARRIED 7/0

**CORPORATE
SERVICES:**

1. Budget Preparation and Community Engagement Update

Rodney Boyko provided an update on the budget preparation and community engagement processes currently underway. He noted responses on the Service Level Review survey received to date include pertinent information beneficial to budget deliberations. However, there is concern that future responses may be effected by an advertisement in the Western Star that contains incomplete and misleading financial information.

Mr. Boyko noted Staff is preparing a communication release to address misleading information regarding financial statements, Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority, County facilities and the County Peace Officer program as shown in the advertisement. For example, the advertisement lists 2015 operating expenses at \$50,192,114 but it does not account for \$18,000,000 for amortization or \$5,000,000 in transfers to the Town and Village for project costs in the total amount.

In the meantime, Staff asks that Council endorse the Communications and Community Engagement components of the budget process in progress as follows: encourage residents to participate in the Service Level Review survey; and, direct residents to online information on the County's financial statements and Council's strategic plans and/or contact Staff with inquiries.

Mr. Boyko responded to question and explained all of the survey responses received to date include the respondent's contact information, however any responses received without contact information will be included in the final summary.

COUNCILLOR MAKI:

That Council endorses the Communications and Community Engagement components of the budget preparation process as presented.

361/16

CARRIED 7/0

MUNICIPAL:

1. Council Christmas Greeting Advertising 2016

Christine Heggart stated each year, Council submits a Christmas holiday greeting advertisement for publication in the Mountaineer, Western Star and Sundre Round Up.

Ms. Heggart noted in the past, the three advertisements ran for one week in December and included a full colour photo of Council and a Christmas greeting. Last year, the total cost for the three advertisements in 2015 was \$950.00 and costs were equally divided and paid by Council.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM:

That Council authorizes the publication of Christmas Greeting Advertisements, using the 2013 photo, with costs equally divided and paid by Councillors.

362/16

CARRIED 7/0

Debbie Northcott, Dwight Oliver, and Bob Schellenberg joined the meeting.

2. Cancellation of December 27 Regular Council Meeting

Rick Emmons stated that Clearwater County's Procedural Bylaw authorizes Council to change or cancel regularly scheduled Council meetings. Council's December 27 regular meeting falls on an in lieu holiday as December 25 is on the Sunday.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council cancels the December 27, 2016 regular meeting and directs staff to advertise the change.

363/16

CARRIED 7/0

3. Delegation: Caroline & District Athletic and Agriculture Society

Dwight Oliver, President, Caroline and District Athletic and Agriculture Society, thanked Council for supporting the Community HUB construction project and operations. He introduced Bob Schellenberg, the Society's Vice President and Debbie Northcott, Community HUB Manager.

Ms. Northcott reported on activities and monthly facility usage for the past year. The Society is moving forward on objectives to provide community engagement and integration as well as quality facilities and services through streamlining operational efficiencies.

Ms. Northcott noted capital projects are continuing with the development of the SE Rec Grounds, updates to the community hall and general upgrading and maintenance of facilities and grounds.

Discussion followed on the Community HUB's successful programs, consistent user membership levels, and overall community support for the facility.

Ms. Northcott extended an invitation to Council to attend the "Light Up Caroline" event on December 2.

Council indicated interest in touring the Community HUB in the new year.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council receives the information as presented.

364/16

CARRIED 7/0

3. AAMDC 2016 Fall Convention Resolutions

Directors provided background information and administrative comments on the AAMDC 2016 Fall Convention proposed resolutions.

Discussion followed on the effectiveness of the various resolutions in implementing regulations and the probability of success for several others.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council receives the information as presented.

365/16

CARRIED 7/0

Rodney Boyko responded to question and explained the review on the County's information and technology services is moving forward with preliminary results anticipated in the near future.

INFORMATION:

1. CAO's Report

Rick Emmons reviewed upcoming events and programs for November and December.

3. Councillor Verbal Reports

Councillor Vandermeer reported on the Clearwater Broadband Foundation's (CBF) activities and noted CBF requests that Council receive a delegation at the November 22 regular council meeting. Councillor Vandermeer also reported on the Rural Broadband Workshop that he attended.

Reeve Alexander noted MLA Jason Nixon asks rural municipalities to submit suggestions for capital projects, within provincial jurisdiction, in response to the provincial government's request for capital plan priorities for 2017 budget planning.

Discussion followed on suggesting a new hospital in Rocky Mountain House as a capital plan priority.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council sends a letter to MLA Nixon indicating a new hospital in Rocky Mountain House as a capital plan priority for the Province's 2017 Capital Plan.

366/16

CARRIED 7/0

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

367/16

CARRIED 7/0

IN CAMERA:

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole to discuss a Labour item as per the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Section 17(1), at 11:40 A.M.

368/16

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR LAING: That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting at 1:10 A.M.

369/16

CARRIED 7/0

ADJOURNMENT: COUNCILLOR MAKI:
1:10 P.M.

That the Meeting adjourns.

370/16

CARRIED 7/0



REEVE


ACTING CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER