

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held August 23, 2016, in the Clearwater County Council Chambers in Rocky Mountain House.

CALL TO ORDER: The Meeting was called to order at 9:05 A.M. by Reeve Alexander with the following being present:

Reeve:	Pat Alexander
Councillors:	Earl Graham
	John Vandermeer
	Jim Duncan
	Kyle Greenwood
	Theresa Laing
	Curt Maki
Chief Administrative Officer:	Ron Leaf
Recording Secretary:	Tracy Haight
Director, Public Works:	Marshall Morton
Director, Corporate Services:	Rodney Boyko
Director, Ag Services & Landcare:	Matt Martinson
Manager, Operations:	Kurt Magnus
Manager, TIMS:	Brad Welygan
Manager, Finance:	Rhonda Serhan
Project Technologist:	Kate Reglin
Media:	Helge Nome
	Sylvana Crosby
	Logan Schenk

**AGENDA
APPROVAL:**

The August 23, 2016 Regular Council Meeting agenda was amended as follows:

- Addition of a verbal report on the Canada 150 Canoe Race Project and the North Saskatchewan River Watershed Alliance (NSRWA) Headwaters Tour by Councillor Duncan as Item J3.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the August 23, 2016 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted as amended.

270/16

CARRIED 7/0

Ron Leaf introduced new staff member, Rodney Boyko, Director of Finance and Corporate Services.

**CONFIRMATION
OF MINUTES:**

1. July 26, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That the Minutes of the July 26, 2016 Regular Meeting are adopted as circulated.

271/16

CARRIED 7/0

2. July 27, 2016 Special Council Meeting Minutes

Councillor Duncan noted "satellite broadband" should read "satellite and broadband".

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That the Minutes of the July 27, 2016 Special Council Meeting are adopted as amended.

272/16

CARRIED 7/0

Discussion took place on the amount of rainfall in the County. Currently there are no reports of significant flooding in the West County, however Public Works staff are currently responding to calls on flooded roadways in the northern area.

PUBLIC WORKS:

1. Bridge File 07519 Rehabilitation

Bridge File 07519 (BF07519) is a 102 year old bridge located at SW 26 41 04 W5M. Due to its age and restricted load rating, repairs are not feasible. Consequently, Administration proposes the installation of a two lane alternative non-standard bridge structure.

Marshall Morton responded to questions and explained the design features and specifications of the proposed bridge structure. He noted comparisons between different types of structures and stated the cost of the proposed structure is 50% less than a standard structure. He also noted that with the installation of an alternative non-standard bridge structure yearly inspections, a reduced speed limit, and five-year status reports are required.

Discussion took place on cost advantages to installing the proposed temporary structure so as to meet the immediate community needs.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council authorizes the installation of a two-lane alternative non-standard bridge structure at SW 26 41 04 W5M as a temporary repair.

273/16

CARRIED 7/0

2. Bridge File 01963 (James River Bridge) Repairs

A recent engineer's inspection confirmed that the James River Bridge has sustained further damage (multiple fatigue cracks) to its substructure. Costs for repair are estimated at \$410,300 without any guarantee of sustaining, or increasing, current load ratings or extending the service life of the bridge beyond 5-10 years.

Based on the engineer's recommendations, repair work to the bridge piers, at an estimated \$100,000, will extend the bridge's service life for 2-3 years with load restrictions of CS1Truck – 8t, CS2Semi-Trailer – 9t, and CS3Truck Train – 11t. As there is no benefit to full substructure repairs, Administration is moving forward on bridge pier repairs only. Administration will use the next two years to evaluate options for future replacement.

Discussion followed on the continued disregard for weight restrictions on this bridge and suitable replacement options, such as an alternative bridge structure, will continue to be evaluated.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That Council receives the information as presented.

274/16

CARRIED 7/0

Marshall Morton, Kurt Magnus, and Kate Reglin left the meeting. Ted Hickey and Jerry Pratt joined the meeting.

**AGRICULTURE
SERVICES &
LANDCARE:**

1. Red Deer River Municipal Users Group (RDRMUG) Letter of Support

The Red Deer River Municipal Users Group (RDRMUG) asks member municipalities to support the Towns of Sundre and Drumheller in their provincial government lobby efforts for fully funded costs of upgrading and enhancing flood mitigation in and around these communities.

Councillor Maki, the council-appointed RDRMUG member, provided further details and explained the Towns of Sundre and Drumheller's efforts to have their flood protection and funding concerns addressed by the provincial government.

Discussion took place on the challenges of flood mitigation that include channelization of rivers, protecting existing development, and funding.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council sends a letter to Alberta Environment and Parks in support of the Towns of Sundre and Drumheller lobby efforts for the Province funding their flood mitigation projects.

275/16

CARRIED 7/0

Rick Emmons joined the meeting. Matt Martinson left the meeting.

PLANNING:

1. Policy Review – Nordegg Lot Purchasing

Rick Emmons presented amendments to the *Nordegg Lot Purchasing* policy that enables Administration to negotiate, within a 12% variance, the purchase price of a Nordegg lot. The amendment will allow for better customer service and expedite the buying process.

This policy replaces the following three policies:

- Nordegg Lot Industrial Purchasing
- Nordegg Leisure Residential Lot Purchasing, and
- Nordegg Residential Lot Purchasing.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council adopts the *Nordegg Lot Purchasing* policy as amended.

276/16

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council rescinds the following policies: *Nordegg Lot Industrial Purchasing, Nordegg Leisure Residential Lot Purchasing, and Nordegg Residential Lot Purchasing.*

277/16

CARRIED 7/0

CORPORATE SERVICES:

1. 2016 Operating & Capital Report as of July 31

Rhonda Serhan reported on the 2016 budget performance to the end of July and provided an overview of operating revenue, annual budget, variance amounts and actual revenue percentage in relation to the annual budget amounts.

Ms. Serhan reported on operating expenses by department and provided details in terms of unusual variances.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council receives the 2016 Operating and Capital reports as presented.

278/16

CARRIED 7/0

COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES:

1. Clearwater Regional Economic Profile

Mr. Jerry Pratt provided Council with the recently developed 'Clearwater Regional Economic Profile' publication and noted copies are now available at local municipal and Chamber of Commerce offices as well as online.

Mr. Pratt responded to questions and explained the publication is jointly funded with the Town.

Discussion followed on regional economic indicators, population growth and the importance of diversification for the economy.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council receives the information as presented.

279/16

CARRIED 7/0

2. Clearwater Regional Tourism Survey Results

Council reviewed the Regional Tourism Working Group survey results which identified tourism strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement in regional tourism opportunities.

Discussion took place on survey comments which confirm visitors enjoy coming to the area for outdoor activities and also identifies a desire for the development, mapping, and signage of trails.

Discussion continued on how the survey results supports Clearwater Trail Initiative's plans for trail designation and Council's strategic plans for community well-being and economic development. The results can also be used to strengthen discussions with the Province to recognize the value of supporting trail development and other recreational activities in the West County.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council receives the information as presented.

280/16

CARRIED 7/0

Amanda Rodriguez and Alan Marshall joined the meeting.

3. Clearwater Regional Tourism Strategy - Draft

Council reviewed the draft 'Clearwater Regional Tourism Strategy' that was developed by the Regional Tourism Working Group in collaboration with participating organizations and local tourism operators.

Mr. Pratt explained the strategy objectives and noted they are subject to change dependent on priorities and what is accomplished.

Discussion followed on the strategy's objective of branding the region rather than one specific location to encourage all types of tourism activities and improve diversification in the area.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council approves the Clearwater Regional Tourism Strategy in principle, and directs Administration to commence work on the completion of objectives as outlined.

281/16

CARRIED 7/0

Sylvana Crosby left the meeting.

PLANNING:

2. 10:30 a.m. Clearwater County Heritage Board Update – Alan Marshall, President

Alan Marshall, President, Clearwater County Heritage Board, reported on the Board's activities that included community engagement in a review of buildings in Nordegg to determine if there is historical value in restoration. After public consultation, the Board recommends the buildings are demolished as they are beyond restoration and pose a safety hazard in the community. It is hoped that building materials could be recycled.

The Board is also searching for potential sites with historic significance within the County and has determined several possibilities such as a 100 year old wooden train trestle, several cemeteries, Shilo School and areas in the Alexo and Saunders development nodes. There is intent to collaborate with the Regional Tourism Working Group on developing a self-guided tour once historical sites have been identified.

Amanda Rodriguez provided information on the Canada 150 Mosaic project that the Board is hosting. Activities are scheduled for March 29 – April 1, 2017

and the Board hopes to involve graduates and seniors in painting tiles for the mosaic.

COUNCILLOR GREENWOOD: That Council receives the information as presented.

282/16

CARRIED 7/0

MUNICIPAL:

1. 2016 Alberta Urban Municipalities Association (AUMA) Convention Invitation

Ron Leaf requested direction on who will attend the 2016 AUMA Convention, October 5 – 7 in Edmonton, as a guest of the Town of Rocky Mountain House Council and as a County delegate.

Discussion followed and Councillor Graham indicated his interest in attending. Councillor Laing indicated her interest in attending if no other Councillor is available.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council authorizes Councillor Graham's attendance at the 2016 AUMA Convention as the guest of Town of Rocky Mountain House Council and Councillor Laing's attendance as the County's delegate.

283/16

CARRIED 7/0

2. Policy Review – Councillor and Board Reimbursement

Ron Leaf presented amendments to the *Councillor and Board Reimbursement* policy that reflect updated information on community boards and committees.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That Council adopts the *Councillor and Board Reimbursement* policy as presented.

284/16

CARRIED 7/0

3. Lacombe County Request for Endorsement

Council reviewed the "Resolution Process – Identification of Financial Implications" resolution as submitted by Lacombe County for endorsement. Lacombe County intends to present the resolution at the October 14 Central Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties general meeting for membership approval.

The resolution identifies concerns with the lack of understanding on the financial costs associated with the implementation of resolutions submitted to the Provincial government or other agencies.

Councillor Vandermeer will endorse the resolution, on behalf of Council, at the October 14 meeting.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council endorses Lacombe County's "Resolution Process – Identification of Financial Implications" resolution.

285/16

CARRIED 7/0

4. Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties (AAMDC) Position Statement on Bill 21 Proposed Amendments

Council reviewed a summary of Administration's comments on the AAMDC's "What We Heard" document that summarized comments received during AAMDC's consultation sessions on Bill 21: Modernized Municipal Government Act.

Discussion followed with particular emphasis on: the potential implications relating to a Centralized Authority responsible for M&E assessments; potential impact of inter-municipal collaboration agreements, workload implications associated with development of inter-municipal development plans, and the 5:1 ratio between non-residential and residential municipal assessments.

Mr. Leaf advised that draft regulations pertaining to the "Code of Conduct" and the "Public Participation Bylaw" have been distributed to various Provincial Associations (e.g. AAMDC, ARMAA). The Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA) is also under review. Administration will monitor correspondence in relation to the regulations and LAEA and will advise Council of any new developments. Additionally, Administration will begin developing a draft code of conduct and public participation policy, which will be presented to Council following passage of Bill 21, which is scheduled for the fall 2016 session of the Legislative Assembly.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council receives the information as presented.

286/16

CARRIED 7/0

5. Request From Pat Stier, MLA Official Opposition Shadow Minister of Municipal Affairs for Feedback on Bill 21

Council reviewed correspondence from Pat Stier, MLA Official Opposition Shadow Minister of Municipal Affairs, requesting feedback on the County's experience during the Bill 21 consultation process, identify issues that the government failed to address, and request any other comments and concerns on proposed changes.

Discussion followed and Council noted AAMDC worked with members to review Bill 21 and develop recommendations for Municipal Affairs' consideration which they have forwarded to the government. Clearwater County participated in Provincial and AAMDC consultation sessions and has already provided feedback. If there are further issues, concerns, and/or comments, it is best the County relay these through AAMDC.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council sends a letter to MLA Pat Stier acknowledging the request and suggest that he should contact the AAMD&C with respect to the rural municipal perspective on Bill 21.

287/16

CARRIED 7/0

INFORMATION:

Ron Leaf reviewed upcoming events and meetings scheduled for September and October.

Discussion took place on the opportunity to apply for a World Heritage Site. Administration will look into the application process and criteria and report back to Council.

Discussion took place on travel arrangements for the October 14 CAAMDC – District 2 General Meeting in Acadia Valley. Council supports travelling as far as Drumheller on October 13 and meeting with Kneehill County.

Councillor Duncan reported on the Canada 150 Committee's Canoe Race project and on the North Saskatchewan Rivershed Water Alliance Tour.

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

288/16

CARRIED 7/0

IN CAMERA:

1. In Camera

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole to discuss a Land issue at 12:04 P.M.

289/16

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting at 12:43 P.M.

290/16

CARRIED 7/0

**ADJOURNMENT:
12:43 P.M.**

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the Meeting adjourns.

291/16

CARRIED 7/0



REEVE


CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER