

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SMOKY RIVER NO. 130, HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE, FALHER, ALBERTA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2008

PRESENT:  
Reeve: Donald Dumont  
Councillors: Robert Brochu  
Donald Gosselin  
Andre Trudeau  
Richard Aubin  
Administrator: Lucien Turcotte  
Recording Secretary: Rita Therriault  
Smoky River Express Reporter: Emily Plihal  
ABSENT: Luc Desaulniers

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Reeve Dumont at 10:11 a.m.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA

081201 On motion of Councillor Aubin, Council approved the agenda as presented.

Carried.

MINUTES OF THE LAST REGULAR MEETING

081202 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, the minutes of the regular meeting held November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008 were approved as circulated.

Carried.

MINUTES OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Councillors were presented with the following minutes for information;

- minutes and monthly report of FCSS Board Meeting of October 29<sup>th</sup>

MONTHLY AND BUDGET REPORTS

081203 On motion of Councillor Aubin, the monthly and budget reports for the month of November 2008 were approved as presented.

Carried.

POWER LINE EXTENSION – NW 35-77-22-W5M

081204 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council approved ATCO Electric power line extensions on the NW 35-77-22-W5M to provide service for Ken Johnson.

Carried.

PAYMENT TO COUNCILLORS

081205 On motion of Councillor Aubin, Council approved the payment to Councillors for the fourth quarter of 2008.

Carried.

PAYMENT TO VARIOUS BOARD MEMBERS

- 081206 On motion of Councillor Aubin, Council approved payment of meeting fees to the various board members for the second half of 2008.
- Carried.

WATER RATE INCREASE

- 081207 On motion of Councillor Aubin, Council set the water rate at \$3.40 per cubic meter effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 to reflect the increased rates from the Smoky River Water Commission.
- 4 for  
1 against  
Carried.

MUNICIPAL BORROWING BY-LAW NO.800

A Bylaw of the Municipal District of Smoky River No.130 in the Province of Alberta authorizing to borrow the sum of \$3,000,000.00, at the Alberta Treasury Branch, on a floating loan basis to meet the current operating expenditures for the year 2009.

- 081208 First Reading was given upon a motion of Councillor Aubin.
- Carried.
- 081209 Second Reading was given upon a motion of Councillor Trudeau.
- Carried.
- 081210 Councillor Brochu moved that Bylaw No. 800 receive Third and Final Reading at this time.
- Carried Unanimously.
- 081211 Councillor Gosselin moved that it receive Third Reading and be Finally Passed.
- Carried.

SUBDIVISION TIME EXTENSION – lot 17, blk 4, plan 892-2406

- 081212 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council approved a time extension to a subdivision on Lot 17, Blk 4, Plan 890-2406 (SW 1-80-22-W5M) for Daryl Henke until December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009 as per Section 657(6) of the Municipal Government Act.
- Carried.

BOARD MEMBERS – Economic Dev. Board/ASB Appeal Committee

- 081213 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council tabled this agenda item until this afternoon.
- Carried.

LETTER OF SUPPORT – Girouxville Sports Club

- 081214 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council approved sending a letter to the Girouxville Sports Club supporting their grant application towards a new bowling alley.
- Carried.

2009 EQUALIZED ASSESSMENT

- 081215 On motion of Councillor Aubin, Council approved the 2009 Total Taxable Equalized Assessment in the amount of \$317,351,511.
- Carried.

2009 TENTATIVE M.D. BUDGET

- 081216 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council approved the tentative municipal budget as presented to council for the year 2009.
- 4 for  
1 against  
Carried.

2008 RESERVE – Bremont Culvert Project

- 081217 On motion of Councillor Brochu, Council approved that \$100,000.00 be set to reserve for the purpose of the Bremont Culvert Project.
- Carried.

2008 RESERVE – New Fire Hall

- 081218 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council approved that \$200,000.00 be set to reserve for the purpose of the new Fire Hall.
- Carried.

RESIGNATION – Director of Protective Services

Ian Fox resigned as Director of Protective Services as of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2008.

2009 FUEL TENDERS

- 081219 On motion of Councillor Brochu, Council awarded its 2009 fuel requirements to Peace Fuel Distributors as per quotation submitted.
- Carried.

2009 GRADER BLADE TENDERS

- 081220 On motion of Councillor Aubin, Council awarded its 2009 grader blade requirements to Finning at a total price of \$90,707.20.
- Carried.

2009 CULVERT TENDERS

- 081221 On motion of Councillor Brochu, Council awarded its 2009 culvert requirements to Canada Culvert as per their quotation.
- Carried.

LUNCH

- 081222 On motion of Reeve Dumont, Council recessed for lunch at 11:54 p.m. and reconvened at 1:10 p.m.
- Carried.

**Emily Plihal left the meeting at 11:55 am**IN CAMERA

- 081223 On motion of Councillor Aubin, Council went into camera at 1:30 pm to discuss personnel issues.
- Carried.
- 081224 On motion of Councillor Aubin, Council went out of camera at 2:22 pm.
- Carried.

WAGES – salary and wage adjustments

- 081225 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council approved a salary adjustment of \$8,000.00 for employee # 1 and wage adjustments of \$2,400.00 for employee # 153 and # 240 as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009.
- Carried.

WAGES – employee salary and wage increases

- 081226 On motion of Councillor Brochu, Council approved an increase of 3.5% to all employees' wages and salaries as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009.
- Carried.

WAGES – benefit plan

- 081227 On motion of Councillor Gosselin, Council approved employee participation in the Alberta Blue Cross Employee Assistance Program and increased the Short Term Disability weekly indemnity benefit rate from 60% to 66.67% effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009.
- Carried.

COUNCILLORS CONCERNS

- Miscellaneous Budget Increase
- In-house assessor
- Newspaper and Regional Recreation Complex
- Brushing and Fall work
- MMSA – service contract

SKI HILL MANAGER'S REPORT

Ski Hill Manager Clem Bourgeois met with Council to discuss the following matters:

- Hiring of New Staff
- Chalet and Kitchen Equipment
- Snow Making Days
- Opening Day - December 20<sup>th</sup>
- Season Pass, Festival of Trees
- Snowmobile Replacement
- 2009 Budget
- Bins for helmet maintenance and upkeep
- New Deck – pilings no longer available
- Grand Opening – January/February

081228 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council approved the Ski Hill Manager's report.

Carried.

BOARD MEMBERS – Economic Dev. Board/ASB Appeal Committee

081229 On motion of Councillor Gosselin, Council appointed Rene Blanchette as representative on the Smoky River Economic Development Board.

Carried.

081230 On motion of Councillor Brochu, Council appointed Charles Turcotte as representative to the A.S.B. Appeal Committee.

Carried

DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURAL SERVICES' REPORT

The Director of Agricultural Services Report was reviewed by Council with an overview of the following items:

- From Last Council Meeting
- Wild Boar Eradication/Control Program
- A.S.B. Meeting
- V.S.I. in High Prairie
- Courses & Workshops

081231 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council approved to increase the bounty from \$50 to \$100 per pair of wild boar ears with a budget cap of \$5,000 ending December 31, 2009.

Carried.

081232 On motion of Councillor Aubin, Council approved the Director of Agricultural Services' Report as presented.

Carried.

DIRECTOR OF PROTECTIVE SERVICES' REPORT

The Director of Protective Services' report was reviewed by Council and included an overview of the following items:

- Call Volume for 2008 - Numbers and Types of Calls
- Volunteer Hours for 2008
- Meeting held with engineers for new fire hall
- Attended FIERO fire hall symposium
- Attended fire investigation procedures in Vermillion
- Conducted review of Merlot Chem. Shed Emerg. Procedures
- Set up agency meeting
- Completed grant compliance documents (STARS)
- Reviewed ACICR grant and compliance issues
- Prepared all fire department budgets
- Letter of resignation

081233 Council thanked Ian for his services over the years; Ian reciprocated with his thanks as well.

On motion of Councillor Brochu, Council approved the Director of Protective Services' Report as presented.

Carried.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS' REPORT

Director of Operations, Clem Guenette, presented his report to Council with an overview of the following items:

- Truck fill returns
- Monthly Equipment Costs
- Monthly Downtime
- 2008 Graveling Program
- 2008 Vacation Carry Over
- Gravel Crushing
- 2009 Culvert Requirements
- 2009 Grader Blade Requirements
- 2008/2009 Capital Purchase from Anticipated Surplus
- Equipment Sold at Auction
- GPS Units

Councillor Brochu brought a concern from rate payer, Gilbert Demeule, about a ditch debt and CN crossing. CN is looking at doing some work next spring.

Councillor Brochu brought a concern about the emergency routes to be identified in policy.

Councillor Brochu brought a request to consider using AMIP and MSI funds to include second year graveling on the same road project.

081234 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council approved 15 days of vacation carry over from 2008 to 2009 for employee #183.

Carried.

081235 On motion of Councillor Brochu, Council approved 5 days of vacation carry over from 2008 to 2009 for Employee #31

Carried.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS' REPORT - continued

- 081236 On motion of Councillor Brochu, the Director of Operations' report was approved as presented.
- Carried.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

- 081237 On motion of Councillor Brochu, Council approved the following capital purchases from 2008 surplus:
- New Tundra Snowmobile for the Ski Hill \$6,000.00  
 New Dozer for Public Works \$17,000.00  
 Sandvik Boards for Public Works \$30,000  
 New Pick up for Public Works \$33,000.00  
 New Core Spreader for the Fire Department \$15,630
- Carried.
- 081238 On motion of Council Aubin, Council approved that \$20,000 be set into reserve for a new incinerator.
- Carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Turcotte reported to Council on the following matters:

- Payment to Councillors
- Christmas Closures
- Christmas Party
- Physician Recruitment Strategy
- Regional Committee Meeting
- Hutterite Development – Whitemud
- Alberta Environment – AWMEC
- Landfill hours – Jean-Cote & Guy
- Committee Meeting
- Assessment Services
- AAMD & C Compensation Survey
- Holiday Carryover – Employee #153
- Ski Hill Chalet
- Performance Appraisal - CAO

- 081239 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council approved sending a letter to the Minister of Environment expressing our support to continue the Alberta Water Management Erosion Control (AWMEC) Program.
- Carried.
- 081240 On motion of Councillor Brochu, Council approved amending motion 081024 to add the word "Wednesday" and now reads:
- "Council approves opening the landfill on Wednesday in Guy and Jean Cote as follows so that permanent signage can be erected.
- 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. - April to August  
 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. - September & October"
- Carried.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT - continued

081241 On motion of Councillor Brochu, Council approved employee # 153 to carry over 4 vacation days, to be taken by the end of March 2009.

Carried.

081242 On motion of Councillor Aubin, the Administrator's report was approved as presented.

Carried.

IN CAMERA

081243 On motion of Councillor Brochu, Council approved going into camera at 5:24 pm to discuss personnel issues.

Carried.

081244 On motion of Councillor Trudeau, Council approved going out of camera at 5:33 p.m.

Carried.

CAO PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Council did the CAO Performance Review and Reeve Dumont will meet with CAO to discuss the result.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was brought to Council for their consideration:

- 1) Alberta Association of M.D.'s & Counties
  - Contact Newsletter issues #44, 45, 46, 47, 48
  - Alberta Water Council releases Shared Gov Framework
  - Municipalities Respond to Claims Made by Canadian Federation of Independent Business
  - Canada West Foundation releases Related Report Regarding Property Tax
  - Partners in Trade issues #10, 11,
  - Gov of AB Renews Water for Life Strategy
  - Gov of AB Offers Transitional Royalty Rates
  - District Highlights – District No.3 – October 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Update: 2009 Spring EOEP Course Schedule
  - Notice of Elections and Procedures for the AAMDC Board of Directors
  - Reeve's & Mayor's Meeting Minutes of November 11<sup>th</sup>
  - Government of Alberta Land Use Framework
  - Fall 2008 Centennial Convention Materials
- 2) Hon. Hector Goudreau, MLA Dunvegan
  - Employment and Immigration sponsors three awards
- 3) Town of Falher
  - Falher Regional Recreation Complex
  - Falher Regional Swimming Pool
- 4) Alberta Municipal Affairs
  - Town of Falher dissolution study

CORRESPONDENCE - continued

- 5) Federation of Canadian Municipalities
  - Infrastructure and the Economy
- 6) Northern Alberta Development Council
  - Sponsorship opportunity for 2009 Challenge North Conference
  - Communiqué, newsletter
- 7) Northern Sunrise County
  - Open House - December 12<sup>th</sup>
- 8) Alberta Health Services
  - In Your Community, Nov. News from McLennan
- 9) MD of Big Lakes
  - AUMA Recommendation on Membership
  - 2008 Winter News
- 10) ASB Correspondence
- 11) Bills for Payment

ADJOURNMENT

081245

On motion of Reeve Dumont, the meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Carried.

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Reeve

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Municipal Administrator