

FEBRUARY 12, 2018

Present: Mayor Brian Peterson Councillors: Lyle Sipe Craig Hewitt Bill Guise

CAO: Greg Gayton

1. Mayor Peterson called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.
2. Minutes of the January 22, 2018 regular Council meeting.

MOVED by Councillor Sipe that the minutes of the January 22, 2018 regular Council meeting be approved as presented. **CARRIED 02/18/24**

3. Business arising from the Minutes:
Councillor Sipe cited concerns regarding the Teare Creek clean up. Discussions with CAO took place to get clean up back on track.

MOVED by Councillor Hewitt to give Teare Creek 60 days' notice to clean up the property, and to advise if no action taken, that assets would be sold off. **CARRIED 02/18/25**

Teare Creek will be given options in writing to deal with this existing situation.

4. Delegations:
 - a) Carolyn Nicholson – Food Bank report
Carolyn Nicholson advised the Food Bank was staffed with two volunteers and was open between 10 am and 12 noon, and usually busy Monday mornings. Carolyn explained the voucher has worked well for the Christmas hamper program. Hythe Bigway have been happy with how the program worked.
5. Councillor Sipe expressed concerns that the Fire Dept was no longer picking up donations for the hamper program, and felt that it was a tradition and felt it should be continued. Carolyn had enquired about the Fire Dept picking up during the fair weekend, or other parts of the year.

Because the food hamper preparation takes a lot of space, Ms Nicholson was looking to the possibility for a larger venue for the volunteers, as the present office space is limited. Other suitable spaces were looked into including the old Oakford building. An annual meeting is held every April and she invited all Councillors.

Ms Nicholson left the meeting at 6:02 pm.

Mr. Steve Rawlyk, Public Works Supervisor joined the meeting at 6:03pm.

b) Steve Rawlyk – Public Works Report

Mr. Rawlyk circulated a summary of the snow removal activities since the last heavy snowfall, and commented that residents seem to be cooperative in moving their vehicles for the snow removal. Some damage was reported to a fence behind the Catholic Church for which he arranged to have building supplies purchased for the repair. Councillor Sipe advised that the snow build up at the old Oakford building be monitored to avoid water seepage into the basement like in the past.

Everyone agreed that the streets were looking good, and were satisfied with the snow removal in a timely manner. Questions were raised on the hours used on each piece of equipment, which Mr. Rawlyk was going to monitor. Mr. Rawlyk enquired about the 2018 budget to install forks on the skid steer and was advised to get some quotes. Councillor Guise stated that a more mechanized implement could be used for spreading sand on the sidewalks. Councillors thought something could be mounted on existing equipment. Mr. Rawlyk also advised that clean up was being done on the old land fill east of town. He said a commitment from a metal recycler in Beaverlodge was difficult to get for the removal of some old metal items.

Mr. Rawlyk left the meeting at 6:20pm.

5. Meetings Attended: Council reviewed the meetings that they had attended from January 22, 2018 to February 12, 2018.

Councillor Guise had concerns with how the Arena Society was running the arena. The society is still paying two power bills and nothing had been done to fix the problem with Atco Electric. Councillor Guise also felt that a permanent solution has to be found to fix the brine leak problems. Expertise to be sought.

CAO advised that Mr. Lane Flaten is interested in meeting with the Mayor, CAO, and Mrs. Linda Waddy from the County, to discuss the matter. Grant money may be available to help fix the problem. Prior commitments by Mr. Flaten made it impossible for him to attend this meeting. More monitoring at the arena was recommended by councillors.

Councillor Hewitt attended the Community Futures meeting and felt that they were still very active in lending money.

Councillor Peterson reported on the Grande Spirit Foundation. Funding was discussed, and though our senior services are provided by the Hythe Pioneer Home, we still pay a small requisition annually. The relations between the Spirit Foundation and Hythe Pioneer Home seem to be better. The Grande Spirit Foundation will provide some financial support to the Pioneer Home.

Councillor Sipe attended the Library board meeting, and reported that he was impressed with how the manager, Charlene McCoy was managing the library, and using the public funds in a cost-effective manner.

6. Correspondence

a) Hythe Regional School – Build a Village Event

Hythe Regional School will be hosting a “Build a Village” event at noon on Wednesday, February 21. Mayor Peterson, Councillors Guise and Sipe, as well as the CAO will attend.

b) AMSC – Community Centre Insurance - receive for information

c) NW Alberta Sports Excellence Award - receive for information

d) Elected Official Economic Development session – Feb. 23

The County of Grande Prairie sponsoring an all-day session in Grande Prairie on February 23, and Mayor Peterson has volunteered to attend.

e) AUMA – police funding - receive for information

f) Municipal Affairs – Awards of Excellence - receive for information

g) GPRTA – funding increase

Grande Prairie Regional Tourism Association submitted a funding request for 2018. There has been no increase in 10 years and with Travel Alberta grants not coming in as customary, budget problems have arisen. They would like a .50 cents per capita increase in 2018 and another .50 increase in 2020.

MOVED by Councillor Sipe to approve a 50 cents per capita increase for the 2018 Grande Prairie Regional Tourism Association payment.

CARRIED 02/18/26

7. Other Business & Information:

a) Regional Handi bus study - update

CAO spoke briefly and advised that Ms. Teresa Boudreault would attend the next meeting with more details.

b) Legalized cannabis stores - receive for information

c) Leaders of Tomorrow awards

Councillors inquired about whether local winners of “Leaders of Tomorrow” award would be attending the Volunteer Recognition Event in Hythe. CAO advised that FCSS coordinator usually attend the “Leaders of Tomorrow” functions, will ensure that if there was a local winner that they would attend the event.

d) Minister of Municipal Affairs – Feb. 14 – no attachment

Council arranged for a meeting with the Minister of Municipal Affairs in Hythe on Wednesday, February 14 at the Community Centre.

e) Follow-up from Strategic Planning Session #2 – no attachment

Council reviewed a mailer that Council Hewitt had revised for Strategic Planning.

There were more deletions, additions, and edits on mailer. Council enquired about the “admail” mailers not getting to people who have an admail block notifier on their post office box. MP Chris Warkentin’s mailer have been distributed to people who have mail blocking so possibly there is some ability for government to reach people with blocked mail boxes. CAO will check with Post Office manager in this regard.

It was decided to have a public forum in the spring, possibly April, for the Strategic Plan. Council discussed having a presentation at one of the Legion’s dinner nights. CAO advised that Ms. Holly Sorken is still working on the paper work from last February 1st session and will it be here soon.

f) Ag. Society agreement

Council discussed changes to the clerical agreement with the Ag. Society. Staff will prepare documents as approved.

g) Cemetery Grant report

CAO advised that Cemetery Chairman Ms. Deb Balderston has done a good job getting funding from County for improvements at the cemetery. Ms. Balderston would like to meet with Councillors once she is back from her winter vacation.

h) County of Grande Prairie – AAMDC conference

Invitations were sent to Councillors to attend AAMDCs conference with cost paid by the county. However, the timing wasn’t great so the CAO will ask if the invitation was still open to fall conference.

8. Other matters (members' business):

Councillor Sipe asked about land sale issues, and CAO advised work still in progress.

CAO inquired about purchasing used mowers for the County of Grande Prairie, discussions as what type of mowers were needed. Grass cutting along highway 43 was discussed and the CAO will check with Pete Tofteland for pricing.

Inter-municipal meeting dates were discussed and council suggested March 29 and April 5 for possibilities. Meeting to be held at the Hythe Legion with Mabel Sudnik catering.

Council Guise requested information for residents to have chickens in town. The CAO advised that a request letter must be sent to the Village council, and also suggested that the resident canvass the neighborhood for acceptance.

MOVED by Councillor Sipe to go into Camera. **CARRIED 02/18/27**

9. In Camera

a) ISL Engineering – Groundwater levels

While in Camera Council discussions were held for commercial proposals for engineering.

MOVED by Councillor Sipe to go back into open session. **CARRIED 02/18/28**

10. Adjournment

MOVED by Mayor Peterson that the meeting be adjourned. **CARRIED 02/18/29**

Time of adjournment was 9:07 p.m.