

MARCH 14, 2016

Present: Mayor Gary Burgess
Councillors: Gordon Nicholson, Carol Descoteaux, Cheryl Phillips

CAO: Greg Gayton

1. Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m.

2. Minutes of the February 22, 2016 regular Council meeting

MOVED by Councillor Nicholson that the minutes of the February 22, 2016 regular Council meeting be approved as presented. **CARRIED 02/16/29**

3. Business arising from the Minutes:
No business arising from the minutes.

4. Representation:
a) Abe Elias – Fire Hall proposal
b) Kenny Huey – Public Works report

5. Meeting Attended:

Councillor Descoteaux reported that she had attended a Library Board meeting. This year the Friends of the Library Society are doing the highway cleaning program, this is a program where community volunteers clean the ditches on post-secondary highways in return for some compensation from Alberta Transportation.

Councillor Descoteaux commented that the Library Board had done this in the past, but now the board doesn't feel it's appropriate to be doing it. However Arta Juneau and some other volunteers of the Friends of the Library Society are interested in doing this fund raiser.

CAO noted that he and the Mayor had met with a landman from CNRL regarding fracking. Mayor Burgess commented that the Village should be holding CNRL liable for any problems with our water supply due to the fracking immediately south of the Village. The other issue that was identified was Municipalities are not getting any notification when fracking occurs near their boundaries. There should be a change in the legislation to require this. In a particular situation with the drill site there had been some fracking permitted on the site approximately ten years ago, and that approval carried forward to the fracking that was done recently. Council felt there should be a renewal process rather than an automatic approval.

MOVED by Councillor Phillips to send a letter to CNRL on Councils concern regarding fracking. **CARRIED 02/16/30**

Mayor Burgess reported that he had had some discussions with the Public Works department, regarding putting a headache rack on the Toyota truck. It looks like the cost for this is approximately \$1,000.00.

Mayor Burgess also wanted some discussion about the damage that has been done to the Village equipment from collisions. There was some discussions about making the employees more accountable for these incidents.

The Public Works committee meeting will be held when Councillor Sipe is available. At that meeting there will be some discussion on more frequent incident reporting and guidelines on that.

Public Works Supervisor Kenny Huey joined the meeting at 5:30 p.m. for the regular

Public Works report.

He noted that there are problems with the steamer, it's not producing sufficient pressure. They have some staff from the Hotsy supplier in Grande Prairie looking at it. Council felt it was a better option to repair the steamer, rather than trying to replace it. The recollection from those that were there at the time is the steamer was purchased from Gregg's around 2010. Staff will check into how old the machine is.

Mr. Huey noted that a number of items had been obtained from the RCMP as per conversations with Sargent Respet in September of 2015.

Public Works Supervisor had obtains some estimates for doing some body work on the Toyota. It seems like the cost will be in the \$7,000.00 to \$8,000.00 range. Council did not feel it would be worthwhile to invest that amount of money into a 2007 vehicle. Mr. Huey gave Council his view point on why there have been some issues with damage to the vehicles. He noted that some problems originated from previous staff as well as present staff.

Kenny Huey left the meeting at 5:49 p.m.

Abe and Jake Elias joined the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

They are here to discuss a proposed lease for the Old Fire Hall

MOVED by Councillor Descoteaux to go into camera with Jake and Abe Elias. **CARRIED 02/16/31**

While in Camera there was some discussion about a proposed lease arrangement.

Jake and Abe Elias left the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

MOVED by Councillor Phillips to go back into open session. **CARRIED 02/16/32**

6. Correspondence:

Council reviewed correspondence from:

a) AUMA – 2016 Annual membership – received for information.

b) Friesens – History book reprint – Staff will relay the information to the Historical Society to see if there is any interest.

c) RPAP – value to community – There was some discussion about a letter from the Rural Physician Action Plan about some possible funding cuts in the upcoming budget. The organization was concerned that their funding from Alberta Health Services may be cut. Council felt that a letter of support for RPAP recognizing the good work they do in our area for physician recruitment and retention should be recognized.

MOVED by Councillor Phillips to send a letter of support for Rural Physician Action Plan. **CARRIED 02/16/33**

d) Hythe Food Bank internet – The Food Bank had asked the Village to look into getting internet at the Food Bank. A computer had been donated to the Food Bank. It was noted that the computer would be useful for helping our Food Bank communicate with other food banks and for pulling information off the internet. It would also facilitate communication with our local FCSS office. The CAO noted that we needed to have a conversation with GPN about the loss of the campground wireless internet and look at getting that replaced, so he would inquire about the food bank internet at the same time. It was noted that the Village owns the food bank premises, so they needed to get permission to get the internet.

e) AUMA – Zone boundaries – received for information.

7. Other Business & Information:

a) Linear tax sharing – Some discussions about the political discussions regarding the sharing of Linear assessment between Urban Municipalities and Rural Municipalities. This was received for information.

b) Policy re: expenditure limits - CAO had prepared a policy to provide guidelines to staff on expenditure limitations.

MOVED by Councillor Descoteaux to approve the Expenditure Authorization Policy as presented. **CARRIED 02/16/34**

c) Equipment Replacement plan 2016-2021- Village Council had a first look at the Equipment Replacement Plan for Village equipment, this covered the years 2016-2021. Received for information. It will be considered as part of the budget process.

d) Six Year Capital Plan – CAO had prepared a draft on a six year capital plan. This will be required under the new Municipal Government Act. The new MGA will make it mandatory for Councils to have a five year capital plan plus a three year operating plan.

e) Policy re: Water & Sewer Certification cost CAO had prepared a draft policy regarding Water & Sewer Certification training cost. There had been some concern expressed by Council in the past that the Village had paid for training staff for their certifications, and one for the draw backs is that it made it easier for staff to find employment in other municipalities or other industries that are operating water and sewer facilities. So a policy had been prepared to provide consistent procedure for some cost recovery for water and sewer training.

MOVED by Councillor Nicholson to approve the Water and Sewer training cost recovery policy. **CARRIED 02/16/35**

f) Webb quadruplets fundraiser – Council reviewed a letter regarding the Webb quadruplets fundraiser, being held on Saturday, April 9, 2016 at the Hythe Legion Hall. Tim and Bethani Webb are expecting four identical baby girls. There are a number of expenses associated with having quadruplets including medical care and travel to Edmonton, so the community is planning a silent auction and fundraiser. Council felt that this would be a worthy activity to participate in.

MOVED by Councillor Descoteaux to purchase a table for \$300.00 for the Webb quadruplets fundraiser on April 9, 2016. **CARRIED 02/16/36**

g) Arena loan – Council was advised that the work on the Hythe Arena roof should be starting in late March, however some of the grant money for this project is not in yet and the Hythe Athletic Association does not have the funds to start paying suppliers. It was noted that the roofing material supplier needs to be paid for the material before they can start. There had been some discussion between the CAO and the Hythe Athletic Association about a short term loan to bridge the financial deficit until such time as the Arena Society's grants come in. The amount in question was \$48,000.00 for the roofing material and \$2,400.00 GST.

MOVED by Councillor Phillips to loan the Arena Roofing Project the amount of

\$50,400.00 as a short term loan until such time as the grants are received by the Hythe Athletic Association. **CARRIED 02/16/37**

h) Cheque summary – cheques # 20160100 – 20160190 – Council reviewed the cheque summary, cheques# 20160100 – 20160190, this was received for information.

8. Other matters (members' business):

Councillor Phillips noted that one of the tenants located at the rental property at the intersection of 104th street and 103rd avenue, had trucks parked on the street, and there was a carcass of a dead coyote on the fuel tank of one of the trucks. CAO will look into see what can be done to get the dead coyote removed from the vehicle.

Council also discussed the problem with some people not parking their cars properly on the street, CAO will talk to County Enforcement to see if this can be enforced again.

It was noted that Chris Rudrum had passed away over the weekend, Council approved a donation of \$100.00 to a memorial fund.

It was noted that there may be some issues with staff smoking in the Village owned vehicles. CAO was advised to get some signs that say no smoking in the vehicle.

There was some discussion about the lift pump at the sewer lift station by the public works shop. There should be two pumps operating at the shop, plus a spare pump.

Staff seem to be uncertain if the spare pump that is in the shop is presently operating.

CAO advised that they should contact Travis Peterson regarding this and see if Travis has some back ground information about whether or not that pump is functional.

MOVED by Councillor Phillips to enter into a six month lease agreement with Abe and Jake Elias with a renewal provision after the first six months. **CARRIED 02/16/38**

MOVED by Councillor Phillips to go into Camera. **CARRIED 02/16/39**

While in camera, Council reviewed several personal matters and several land matters.

9. In Camera

- a) Chad Wiwchar – Level One Training
- b) ATB Employee Group Financial benefits
- c) Teare Creeke – tax installments
- d) Land Development (No attachment)

MOVED by Councillor Descoteaux to go back into open session. **CARRIED 02/16/40**

Council went back into open session at 8:14 p.m.

MOVED by Councillor Descoteaux to allow Chad Wiwchar to take the Level 1 Water training. **CARRIED 02/16/41**

MOVED by Councillor Phillips to send Teare Creeke our proposal to paying off their tax balance on the property. **CARRIED 02/16/42**

10. Adjournment

MOVED by Councilor Phillips that the meeting be adjourned. **CARRIED 02/16/43**

Time of adjournment was 8:18 p.m.