

MARCH 9, 2015 MINUTES

Present: Mayor Gary Burgess
Councilors: Cheryl Phillips
Gordon Nicholson
Carol Descoteaux

CAO: Greg Gayton
Elise Mumert – Reporter for West County News

1. Mayor Burgess called the meeting to order at 5:20 p.m.
2. Minutes of the February 23, 2015 regular Council meeting
MOVED by Councillor Nicholson that the minutes of the February 23, 2015 regular Council meeting be approved as presented. **CARRIED 03/15/30**
3. Business arising from the Minutes:
There was some discussion about business arising from the minutes.
4. Representation:
 - a) Sgt. Carolyn Respet – Beaverlodge RCMP Detachment
 - b) Public Works Supervisor – Kenny Huey
 - c) Monica Shaw – Volunteer Appreciation Night
5. Meeting Attended:
Councillors reported on meetings attended from February 23, 2015 to March 9, 2015

Public Works supervisor Kenny Huey joined the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Huey had a discussion with Council about his activities during the first several weeks of his tenure. He reported that the staff had been cleaning up, improving the Public Works shop and yard.

They had tested the barrels of road patch that were still in the shop, and all eight barrels that were there were deemed suitable for use. Mr. Huey has ordered an additional four barrels and they will be in Hythe by April 30, 2015.

Beaverlodge RCMP staff Sgt. Carolyn Respet joined the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

Mr. Huey advised that they had been clearing culverts for the past week. His staff had worked Saturday afternoon on this. There was some discussion about equipment purchases for Public Works, that will be dealt with later on in the meeting. Kenny Huey left the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Council then met with Sgt. Carolyn Respet.

She introduced herself and gave Council some of her biographical background.

Sgt. Respet asked if Council wanted any changes on the reporting format. Council advised that they would have a look at the format the next time the report is presented and would make further deliberations then. They talked about some of the policing issues in Hythe. Sgt. Respet was encouraging people to lock their vehicles at night and to make sure their doors were locked. She asked Council about other policing priority's. Mayor Burgess noted that any efforts to slow down the speeding on highway 43, would be appreciated.

Sgt. Respet will attend the April 13, 2015 regular Council meeting to give the quarterly report for the first three months of the year. Sgt. Carolyn Respet left the meeting at 6:00 pm.

FCSS Director Monica Shaw joined the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Shaw reported that she had received a volunteer recognition grant from the Provincial Government that will help with some of the cost of our volunteer appreciation night on April 15, 2015.

There was some discussion about the timing of the advertising for the Volunteer of the Year, it was felt that it would be good to close the nomination in time to prepare the plaques and other materials. Ms. Shaw noted that in the past there has not been any formal recognition for people who have placed second in the award and possible there could be a process to recognize the runners up. There was some discussion about the food, and the best source for sausages.

It was decided to commence advertising for the Ken Brandsater Award on March 12, 2015 and have nominations close on March 31, 2015. Council will meet after Easter on April 7, 2015 to review the nominations for the Brandsater award. Ms. Shaw would also like the promotion put on the arena sign by the highway. Monica Shaw left the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Council continued with their reports on meetings attended.

Councillor Descoteaux advised that Tim Webb was a new nominee for membership on the Hythe Municipal Library Board.

MOVED by Councillor Descoteaux to appoint Tim Webb to the Hythe Municipal Library board. **CARRIED 03/15/31**

It was noted that the closing bonspiel for the curling club will be held on March 13, 14 & 15, 2015.

Councillor Nicholson reported the Grand Spirit Foundation is now charging for parking spaces that their residents are using. This has had a positive effect in ensuring derelict vehicles are removed from the parking spaces.

Elise Mumert left the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

6. Correspondence:

- a) Small Communities Fund – call for applications. A letter regarding the Small Communities Fund was reviewed. CAO will be working with Beairsto Engineering to submit an application for additional sewer main relining work.
- b) Grande Spirit Requisition – received for information.
- c) Public Procurement Process – complaint procedures – received for information.
- d) Peace Officer report – received for information.

Council felt that the level of the detail in the reports was somewhat sparse. The CAO advised that there are some concerns about the information that is released in these reports. Hence the format for the report.

- e) Grande Prairie and District Oldtimers' Association

Grande Prairie and District Oldtimers' Association are planning a celebration to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the railroad into Grande Prairie. They would like to have a passenger train to come in the summer of 2016 and provide passenger rides from Grande Prairie to Hythe and from Grande Prairie to Sexsmith, perhaps Rycroft.

They are working with the staff at the Alberta Railway Museum as well as CN, about

having it all come together in 2016. At this point in time they do not have a date and time or a schedule of events. They were requesting a letter of support for the municipal Councils in the area.

MOVED by Councillor Phillips to send a letter of support to the Grande Prairie and District Oldtimers' Association. **CARRIED 03/15/32**

f) Alberta Environment

Council reviewed a letter from the Alberta Environment regarding some staffing changes being made at the Northern Alberta offices. This was received for information.

7. Other Business & Information:

a) Lambourne Environmental – lagoon project

There is some further information provided regarding the cost of upgrading the anaerobic ponds at the Hythe sewage lagoons and dealing with the sludge that is presently in those ponds. CAO will continue working on the project. There was some discussion of the nearby farmers who may be interested in taking the sludge on their land.

b) Public Works purchases

Council discussed two items that were needed at the Public Works shop. One was a 60 gallon compressor tank, and the other was a large metal tool box. Mayor Burgess and the Public Works supervisor had discussions on it. It appeared that the approximate cost on both items would be \$2,200.00. The CAO advised that he had reviewed the budget on Sunday and reallocated some money in the public works section of the budget to allow for these purchases. Mayor Burgess and Mr. Huey will make a trip into Grande Prairie together and decide on the specific items to purchase.

MOVED by Councillor Descoteaux to proceed with the public works purchases with an approximate budget of \$2,200.00 as discussed. **CARRIED 03/15/33**

c) MSI Capital grant – received for information

d) Cheque Summary – Cheques #20140907 – 20150137 – received for information.

8. Other matters (members' business):

CAO noted that he and the Mayor would be meeting with the representatives of the Hythe Pioneer Home on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 to discuss the project adjacent to the Village office.

Mayor Burgess asked that we look into some carpentry repairs needed at Well house #1. He also noted that some of the back alley ways need some of the tree branches cut to allow better access. CAO advised that we have Rick's Tree Service on an annual retainer to come in and do some work, that is usually part of their duties.

There was some discussion about 100th street where it joins onto highway 43. There seems to be quite a dip in the road when you come off highway 43. Staff will look into that issue further.

Council discussed a proposal from the FCSS Director to have a magician perform at the Volunteer Appreciation Night on April 15, 2015. It was felt that a magician act may not work well for the format of the event, as a part of the process is that people can come and go this is opening up more room for more people to come in and enjoy a meal. With a magician there people will be staying for the entire duration, which may cause a shortage in seating. Council decided not to proceed with the magician act for Volunteer Appreciation Night.

MOVED by Councillor Phillips to go into Camera.

CARRIED 03/15/34

9. In Camera:
Rural Housing Initiative

MOVED by Councillor Nicholson to go back into open session. **CARRIED**
03/15/35

MOVED by Councillor Nicholson to submit a proposal to the Rural Housing Initiative and request more information. **CARRIED 03/15/36**

10. Adjournment

MOVED by Councilor Nicholson that the meeting be adjourned. **CARRIED**
03/15/37

Time of adjournment was 7:58 p.m.