

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD ON MONDAY APRIL 21, 2014
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA MUNICIPAL OFFICE

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Romanko
Deputy Mayor Frank Barry

Loni Leslie, Chief Administrative Officer
Earla Wagar, Administration

ABSENT: Councillor Stephen Klassen
Kevin Smith, Public Works

GALLERY: Richard Jean of Joly, McCarthy, Dion; Auditor
Mark Watson, Smoky Lake Signal

ORDER: Mayor Romanko called the meeting to order at 7:100 P.M.

1. AGENDA:

Res. 033-14 Deputy Mayor Barry moved the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

2. DELEGATION:

Richard Jean of Joly, McCarthy, Dion, our Municipal Auditor presented the 2013 Consolidated Statement of Financial Position to Council. He reported that overall, the Village is still in a precarious financial position, however it is showing more confidence than in the previous few years.

Revenues generated were \$1,151,809.00 of which \$284,712.00 were taxes. Total expenditure were \$1,008,844, showing a gross revenue of \$142,965.00. After amortization of capital assets, in the amount of \$130,817.00, the books showed a net surplus of \$12,148.00. He also pointed out that the Net Financial Debt has been reduced from \$486,346.00 in 2012 to \$394,227.00 at the end of 2013. Total outstanding Long Term debentures and loans total \$440,758.00 in 2013 compared to \$498,133.00 in 2012, showing a decrease in debt of \$57,375.00.

There still is a significant amount of uncollected taxes. \$42,790.00 of the 2013 levy remains outstanding and \$109,485.00 from years prior to 2013 still is outstanding. This puts a substantial burden on the municipal operation. Although collection is improving, there still is an unacceptable amount of arrears.

Council was able to use the majority of the MSI Capital Grant funding to pay the Village's share of the cost of construction of the regional water line. \$436,307.00 was spent on Phases II & III of the water line. The Village was not in a position to prepay Phase I, so are required to pay annual debenture payments to the Highway 28/63 Regional Water Commission of approximately \$5,000.00 per year.

Res. 034-14

Moved by Mayor Romanko that the Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ending December 31, 2013 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Council took a brief break at 8:30 p.m. and reconvened at 8:35 p.m.

3. MINUTES:

a. Regular Council Meeting - March 17, 2014

Res. 035-14

Moved by Mayor Romanko that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of March 17, 2014 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING:

a. X-Ray machine for Vilna Health Centre

Deputy Mayor Barry reported that the need for a new X-Ray machine and blood testing equipment was discussed at the last Joint Municipal meeting. He also made a presentation to Jeff Johnson, Minister of Education and Dave Quest, Minister of Seniors at a meeting in Smoky Lake, as well as a presentation to the Health Advisory Council asking for their assistance in getting a response from Alberta Health regarding the need for new equipment at the Vilna Health Centre.

5. REPORTS:**ADMINISTRATION REPORT and PUBLIC WORKS REPORT
Presented by Loni Leslie**

- Taxes: The tax recovery list has been accepted by the Land Titles Office. There are three properties on it for this year, but I am already receiving payments from one owner, due to the notifications sent out by Land Titles.
- The line thaw machine will have already paid for itself. As of today, there were 4 of each residential and commercial properties assisted with it. A couple of the commercial properties did present difficulties. Owners were given the option multiple times to bring in a plumber, but they declined to do that. Because of that choice, they waited until Kevin was able to thaw the residential priorities.
- We were visited by a GST auditor from April 7th to 10th. Besides putting a serious crimp in getting work done, we did learn a lot, and have learned how to deal with the "new" requirement to charge GST on any good or service sold by the municipality to anyone. Some are excluded, such as

utilities, but we must charge (or include) GST in things such as campground fees, line thaws, gravel etc.

- We have still not received the AHS response to MLA Saskiw's letter. I have been a pest about that, and have also requested a copy of the MLA's letter to Alberta Health.
- We are attempting to get the license application for the distribution system for the regional water completed. We have hit a snag regarding providing information about the pumps.
- The office was informed that the lawsuit, which continued after ours was dismissed (in October 2013 - property on 52nd Ave E.), has also resulted in a dismissal.
- We have received the Alberta Transportation grant of approx. \$286,000.00 for road repair on 49th Avenue, and paving of 49th Street.
- Aspenview Schools has responded that they intend to continue with the lease of the old municipal building for the Outreach school.
- I am requesting some further information from Smoky Lake Foundation administration regarding their requisition calculation and the amount which is 88% higher than last year. This will certainly raise taxes; attached is a copy of the email.
- The Rural Alberta Business Centre (RABC) coordinator has been testing our live streaming sessions for Webinars for Small Business. These are held during the day, can be streamed from the office, or can be viewed from any computer as long as the log-in information is provided. There is a very small fee for these, \$10-15 per log-in. As a refresher, this is the business centre in the Village office available for free for use by small business in the area.
- Our final payment for the water line has been made. The total cheque was for \$208,207.00 (including the 2014 debenture payment. We still have the debenture for the 1st phase – approx. \$5000 per year paid to the Commission.
- The Bottle Depot appears to have been sold for the second time in a couple of months. The company purchasing is from Calgary and owns several others, he anticipates being open 5 days per week.
- We have been invited to several meetings regarding the Health Centre. At the Health Advisory Council meeting, the Alberta Council on Aging representative requested our presence (*and* as many others from all groups as possible to represent our concerns) on May 2 in Glendon with MLA Genia Leskiw and MLA Shane Saskiw, and to their AGM on June 13 in St. Paul.
- The Strategic Planning session discussed at the Joint Municipalities meeting will be held on September 11 and 12, location to be determined. We will be attending with the other municipalities.
- We are still waiting for our 2013 MSI Operating funding. All that is required now is the Minister's signature on the extension agreement (completed and sent in February).

- We are preparing to purge records (pre-2007) which no longer require retention (Bylaw#464-08). A list will be provided to Council and a motion will be required to approve the destruction of the records.
- The Boat Shop purchaser will make a presentation to Council at the next meeting.
- The Laundromat is expected to be opening very soon.

REPORT OF THE 2013 LIBRARY AND FCSS PROGRAMING, AS PREPARED BY LIBRARY MANAGER ROXANNE LOBERG AND PRESENTED BY LONI LESLIE

- I want to say thanks to the Village Council for extending the FCSS funding to the Library. This has assisted in extending my hours to allow me to do FCSS social programming.
- One of the programs we do in the library is called “Children and youth support” program.
- This programs main focus is to help children to develop positively and we use the FCSS outcome model as a guide to achieving this. We use the 40 developmental assets that enhance building blocks of healthy social developments.
- This year our focus was on responsibility, restraint and interpersonal competence.
- A 93% of the children in grade 5 and 6 showed positive changes in these areas above.
- We have discovered that this program is very beneficial to all ages of participants and our connections to the school are becoming more positive. We look forward to more integration of FCSS social programing with the school, broadening this towards the home and then the community.
- Again, Vilna Library Board and I would like to say thanks to the Village Council for playing their part in being part of this program.

MAYOR ROMANKO’S REPORT

April 3, Executive Foundation Meeting

- Met to discuss CAO Vacation Payout.
- Project Administrative Contract
- Discussed options for replacement of CAO

April 7, Foundation Project Meeting

- Met with representatives from Municipal Affairs dealing with Seniors housing, discussed financing for extension as well were advised that it would be advantageous for Board to transfer title to Seniors Housing for both financing of extension as well as replacement of old section of Bar V Nook.
- Chose Nurse call system for addition and therapeutic tub.

April 10 Foundation Project Meeting

- Met with AHS Representatives to discuss contract services. Contract is being drawn up and should be complete by end of April for review.

- Several topics were brought up including type of clients to be served and the services to be supplied by AHS and the Foundation.
- Check lists will be supplied for each.
Mentioned that if can't place client within 7 days space can be reclassified and client can be brought in.
- An extra amount will be provided by AHS for administrative costs as well as rent from client.

April 16, Regular Foundation Meeting

- Toured the Self-contained units in Smoky Lake and met with residents in both self-contained and Lodge residents.
- Bar V Nook at 42/45 and Vilna39/40.
- Met with AUMA representative and Assante Benefits to review the benefits which are available for the staff.
- Meeting will continue on April 23.

Highway 28/63 Water Commission, Smoky Lake

- Discussed problem with CRNWSC as to ownership and responsibility of instruments at Egremont. Will hold meeting to decide later.
- Want Vilna to be on water services no later than May 9.
- Only seasonal deficiencies remaining on final contract.
- Asked RIF for engineering consulting services once line is in full operation.
- Financial Statements were presented and passed for 2013.
- St. Paul still has not made a final decision regarding joining line at Spedden, but it looks as if it will join.

DEPUTY MAYOR BARRY'S REPORTS

RCDC April 9/14

- Admin to draft terms of reference for RCDC including funding formula for consideration by municipalities;
- Suggest adopt via bylaw --more formal which is what Municipal Affairs wants to see;
- Government also wants to see action;
- Buffalo Lake has indicated willingness to work with us on Highway 855 project and Bio-diesel;
- Set several dates to meet with them;
- We should keep communities along 855 and 831 and Jeff Johnson informed as to our actions;
- We should send a letter of support to RCMP regarding spacing of wide loads and request support for 855 and 831 from the province;
- Next meeting May 6 @9 AM to include protocol for dealing with Chinese delegation;
- May 9 meet with delegation from Shanghai re Bio-diesel;
- Send formal invitation with all municipal letterheads and signatures;
- Want to meet with some Ministers and producers;
- Fort McMurray Trade - show Shane has municipal profiles in order to create regional package;

James Haney Municipal Planning Services

- Preparing first round of maps;
- Revising documents to present to councils --plan to have done to councils ' satisfaction by end of May;
- Will plan and carry out second round of public hearings;

Shared services

- Reported that administrators have had a frank discussion;
- Take time to resolve the many differences;
- Idea is to create efficiency not eliminate jobs;
- Problem of public perception –County pay or subsidize other municipalities;
- Shane will work on Recreation plan and look into setting up evening on Anti-bullying;
- Contact Oilers Community Foundation who provide personnel at no cost for anti-bullying programs;

Finances

- Brenda presented up-to-date financial statement;
- Municipal Planning Services invoice #4;
- Incorporate joint retreat as part of initiative, consultant Gord McIntosh, booked;
- Municipal Affairs wants to see where we are on May31, they seem to be happy with what we are doing;
- Provide interim report, will need information on in-kind contribution by month end to include in report;
- Seek extension for 6 months -apply before end of May – rationale required;
- MPS just starting to bill us for services.
- NEXT MEETING MAY 6@9 AM Chinese delegation MAY 9th

SMOKY LAKE April 9

- Meeting / supper with Minister Jeff Johnson and Minister Dave Quest, attended by Loni and myself;
- Brought up about Health Care Center and explained issue around lack of x-ray services and blood testing equipment;
- Quest took correspondence with AHS and said he would pass it on to Horne's Chief of Staff.

Lakeland Health Council Meeting April 10/14 @ Smoky Lake

- Handed out handout on Health Center issue;
- Explain situation and reminded the Health Advisory Council we had brought it to their attention before;
- Neither we nor they have gotten a response from AHS;
- Town of Smoky Lake supported us;
- Stressed need to get a response one way or another from AHS;
- Received invitation from President of Zone for Alberta Council on Aging, and a member of this committee, to attend;
- Roundtable on Aging in Glendon May 2 involving Genia Leskiw and Shayne Saskiw;
- AGM of Council on Aging - June 13 in St. Paul.

COUNCILLOR KLASSEN'S REPORTS**Evergreen Regional Waste Management March 31, 2014**

- The meeting started with the financial statements for 2013. Barb McCarthy from Joly, McCarthy & Dion was on hand to present and discuss the statements which in the end showed a deficit for the year totaling \$206,634. This was due mainly to lost loads from Beaver River and a higher than anticipated maintenance cost for machinery. A motion was made and passed to requisition this amount from the participating municipalities. The percentage to be requisitioned from each municipality will be based on loads hauled during 2013. For the Village of Vilna this should be a fairly low number.
- Talk then continued with a discussion on Lac La Biche and Grizzly Waste Management. A couple members including Steve Upham were in Lac La Biche to talk with the County Council over where to haul their waste. There were other waste management companies also present to do the same. Grizzly who was hauling for Lac La Biche was bringing approximately 400 loads a month to Evergreen. They have now been bought out by WM so we're expecting those loads to now go elsewhere. We do know that Lac La Biche was with WM prior to Grizzly and were not happy with the service. This may lead to another change in haulers for Lac La Biche and loads back to Evergreen.
- The Treasurer's report showed total revenue for February of \$189,355. Last year's revenue at this time was \$155,415. It was noted that the main part of the increase was due to loads hauled from Lac La Biche. Expenses were also higher with \$124,690 for the current year and \$88,998 for last year. This was in large portion due to expenses for machinery repairs and increased cell operation and leachate costs.
- Regional site report was fairly short with the only item of note was concern for having all operators certified.
- Next meeting May 8, 2014

North East Muni-Corr April 14, 2014

- This meeting started with Barb McCarthy from Joly, McCarthy & Dion on hand to present the 2013 year end financials. The financial statements were approved but it was noted that the auditors had a concern over the lack of reporting of time sheets for the Coordinator.
- Again there was more discussion around the Beaver River Trestle, the \$1 million term deposit, and amounts being asked from different municipalities. The MD of Bonnyville has requested a letter be sent, asking for \$45,000 as a donation. The County of Smoky Lake will not be donating anything to the rebuild.
- A meeting was set for April 30 to discuss sidings owned by Muni-Corr and the possible sale of these sidings. One siding by Bellis is currently being assessed as to it's worth as it may have high gravel content.
- One siding that is currently leased may be becoming available again in St. Paul. The company leasing has closed doors and has a 30 day notice to break their lease. The Town of St. Paul wants this property to be used during winter months as an area to pile snow.
- The next big discussion was over the Administrative Coordinator position. It was decided that detailed timesheets were necessary for both the Board and Auditors. The biggest concern was over lack of ability to ascertain

overtime and holidays. Marianne Price will be providing these for the next regular meeting for approval.

- Next regular meeting will be May 12, 2014

Res 036-14 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the reports be accepted for information.

CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS

a) Fire Department Unit#411

The County has indicated that they will no longer be providing insurance coverage for Unit #411, the crew van. They have offered to sell the vehicle to the Fire Department for \$1.00.

Res 037-14 Moved by Mayor Romanko that this issue be tabled until information could be obtained regarding the regulations and cost of insurance for this vehicle.

CARRIED

b) Bonnie Lake Maintenance and Operations Contract

Res. 038-14 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry, that the Operations and Maintenance contract for the seasonal operation of Bonnie Lake Campground be renewed for the 2014 season with Alan Marsh, for the previously agreed upon fee of \$3,138.80 per month.

CARRIED

c) Aspen View School Division Outreach School Lease

Res. 039-14 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the Lease Agreement between Aspen View School Division and the Village of Vilna for the lease of the building located at 4815 - 51 Avenue, be renewed for a period not to exceed 5 years, with a request to increase the lease rate to \$250.00 per month to accommodate the necessary roof repairs.

CARRIED

d) Sale of Sign Post at 5035 51 Avenue

Res. 040-14 Moved by Mayor Romanko that the sign post located at 5035 - 51 Avenue be sold to Tim MacEachern for \$75.00 if he agrees to remove it and clean the site once removed.

CARRIED

e) Snow Removal Vehicle Damage

Res. 041-14 Moved by Mayor Romanko the Village agree to reimburse the affected resident for the amount of her insurance deductible, \$1,000.00, to assist in the coverage of the cost of repairs incurred during a snow removal last winter.

CARRIED

f) Wild Pink Yonder

Council discussed the presentation made to them by Jane Hurl regarding the proposed Wild Pink Yonder cancer fundraising campaign. Administration indicated that the request to host their entourage seems to be a bit overwhelming considering that the majority of the Village volunteers will be exhausted from the Boomtown Days fair the previous week. It was

suggested that the community organizations be contacted to see if any of them would like to host the event.

Res. 042-14

Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that a letter be forwarded to Jane Hurl indicating that the Village of Vilna is not in a position to singly host their ride but would consider co-hosting an event with another community and further indicate that the Village will support their drive by providing the ball diamond at Bonnie Lake for their camping and horse corrals.

CARRIED

8. BYLAWS & POLICIES**9. FINANCIAL REPORT:****a) Expenditures****Res. 043-14**

Moved by Mayor Romanko that payment of cheques #12094 – 12139 in the amount of \$292,223.72 and direct deposits and payroll for the month of February in the amount of \$11,145.76 be accepted for information.

CARRIED

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. Alberta Municipal Affairs, re: Municipal Grants
- b. WCB, re: April 28, National day of Mourning
- c. Alberta Culture, Re: Ukrainian Culture Centre Driving Tour
- d. Alberta Council on Aging, Re: AGM
- e. Alberta Historical Resources Foundation, Re: Heritage Awards
- f. Alberta Municipal Affairs, re: Minister's Award of Excellence
- g. Alberta Municipal Affairs, re: Federal Gas Tax Fund
- h. Alberta Capital Finance Authority, re: Class D Director (Towns)
- i. Alberta Municipal Health and Safety Assn, re: AGM
- j. Lakeland Roman Catholic School District, re: 2014 Requisition
- k. Smoky Lake Foundation, re: 2014 Requisition
- l. Alberta Education, re: 2014 Requisition
- m. Alberta Health Services, re: Health Advisory Councils
- n. Alberta Tourism, re: Highway signs
- o. Northern Lights Library, re: Wording change in agreement
- p. City of Edmonton, re: Conference for a Low Carbon Future
- q. Alberta Emergency, re: Regional Emergency Plan Review
- r. Alberta Municipal Affairs, re: Grants and Education Property Tax Branch

Res. 044-14

Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the correspondence be accepted for information.

CARRIED

Res. 045-14

Moved by Mayor Romanko that a letter be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs indicating that the loss of the MSI Operating Grant will have a severe hardship on our small community.

CARRIED

11. "In Camera"

Res. 046-14 Moved by Mayor Romanko that Council move 'In-Camera" at 9:15 p.m.
CARRIED

Res. 047-14 Moved by Mayor Romanko that Council move "Out-Of-Camera" at 9:25 p.m.
CARRIED

12. NEXT MEETING:

- a) Regular Council Meeting, Monday, May 19, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT:

Res. 048-14 Mayor Romanko adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Donald Romanko, Mayor

Loni Leslie, CAO