

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD ON MONDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2013
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA MUNICIPAL OFFICE

PRESENT: Mayor Don Romanko
Deputy Mayor Frank Barry
Councillor Ron Farmer

Loni Leslie, Chief Administrative Officer
Earla Wagar, Administration

ABSENT:

GALLERY: Mary Piwowar, Susan Nay, Grant Hanson

ORDER: Mayor Romanko called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

1. AGENDA:

Councillor Farmer suggested that we add a Library Report to future Agendas on an ongoing basis.

Res. 130-13 Councillor Farmer moved the agenda be adopted as presented. CARRIED

2. DELEGATION:

3. MINUTES:

a. Regular Council Meeting August 19, 2013

Res. 131-13 Moved by Councillor Farmer that the minutes of August 19, 2013 Regular Council meeting be adopted as presented. CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING:

5. REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Presented by Loni Leslie

- Taxes: From the report last month, we will have collected \$10,271.47 more taxes since August 19th including the \$4,404.20 that we collect monthly. Total current taxes owing as of September 30 will be \$51,245.29 (\$61,516.76 last month). Arrears owing are \$91,762.28 + Interest/Penalties of \$39,965.25 (131,727.53) Still making good progress.
- Out of the two weeks since I have returned from using holiday time, we have spent approximately 5 man days preparing our defense of the suit levied by Herman Petersen. We have no idea as yet the legal costs incurred so far. AUMA lawyers recommended that we not proceed without legal representation and having discussed it with the auditor, chose to call Richard Holeyton from St. Paul. Not using an Edmonton lawyer will keep our costs down. I will need a motion of Council approving this choice. We are proceeding with service of the Statement of Defense filed at the St. Paul Court of Queen's Bench August 30, 2013.

- We will again be reporting higher than acceptable levels of iron for the first week of August. Since the reservoir was cleaned, levels are down below the 0.30 that AESRD (Alberta Environment & Sustainable Resources) sets as an acceptable limit.
- The divers cleaning and recording the cleaning of the reservoir have found a significant flaw in the roof/ceiling of the reservoir. This will need repair, but have discussed with the Engineers of the Water Commission that we should do nothing until the mechanical portion of the contract is complete. There is still a lot of work that will vibrate the building and reservoir causing more sedimentary difficulties. Once Nason has completed the work, we will proceed with repairs to the concrete. We will be seeking possible funding from the Commission and grant funding from Transportation for an emergent repair.
- The inspection of the Vilna area water line construction was conducted on September 4th with Associated Engineering. We have requested some relief regarding the reservoir, as well as re-compaction of areas of the parking lot near the Arena, which are far too soft and at approximately 50 % of previous. The cut line across Main St at the trail will be repaired when Kevin completes the road repairs and we will bill the contractor for that section.
- In order for us to secure the Transportation funding, we are required to submit an Integrated Sustainability Plan to the Province. I will be working on this until completed, as we need this money to fund the paving of 49th Avenue, 49th Street and 49 A Avenue and major repairs to several other areas in town. Kevin and helper will be repairing all potholes, water break areas, etc. this week with cold mix as a temporary fix to the problem. This will save us a large amount of money and future damage to some of these areas.
- Monday September 16th and September 19th Frank and I will be attending RCDC related meetings. We have heard from a couple of people in town who have shown interest in developing a multi-family dwelling(s). We will be meeting with Municipal Planning Service on the 19th at 9am with these interested persons prior to the 10am meeting that is planned for RCDC purposes.
- Preparations for nomination day are ongoing, as well as election preparations. We have given out 4 nomination packages to interested parties.
- The July/August utility billing was mailed out on September 5th.
- The payment of \$213K was made to the Water Commission on September 10th. This payment is for Phase II and was paid from MSI Capital funding received last week. We will need the 2014 and part of the 2015 MSI Capital funding to complete the payment for Phase III.
- The lease for the Ball Diamond at Bonnie Lake has been renewed to 2025.
- WinMar Property Restoration Specialists out of Lloydminster have donated a Community Billboard to the Village. It is currently housed in the office storage room until a location for it can be determined.
- There will be a conference call with the engineers for the regional water line to discuss the reservoir spalling and how we can prevent further sediment disturbance with construction. The reservoir will be completely cleaned prior to the regional water enters the distribution system.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - by Kevin Smith

- Working on Mushroom Park, weeping tile and culvert just about finished.
- Had divers in the reservoir found flaking concrete and lots of sediment about 12" in the back corners.
- We are keeping the iron levels below .30 but it takes a lot of extra work. We chlorinate the filter weekly now to help keep these numbers acceptable.
- Starting to patch potholes next week.
- Water leak at the lumber yard will be fixed tomorrow.
- Have a new helper for the last two weeks; his help has been greatly appreciated with all the extra work with the water plant.
- We have the lumber to repair the sidewalks. A resident has a heavy planer and will plane each board to fit custom, as they are not all the same.

MAYOR ROMANKO'S REPORT**Smoky Lake Foundation**

- The Sod Turning for the new Seniors Housing project in Smoky Lake took place on Saturday, September 14th, 2013.

DEPUTY MAYOR BARRY'S REPORT**Smoky Lake Foundation – August 21, 2013**

- The changes required for the Ministerial Order creating the Seniors' Foundation were reviewed;
- Binder Construction Ltd. is prepared to start construction on September 12, 2013 with the sod turning scheduled for September 14, 2013.
- Once completed the Foundation will have 200 residential units;
- The Foundation Manager has expressed some concerns regarding the copper piping in the Lodges. He has been asked to get a repair price;
- The R & N house in Vilna is rented;
- The rates for new residents have been changed with a potential rate of \$1,250.00.
- The Vilna Lodge made more than \$600.00 at their fair for baking and cook books.
- The average age of resident's is 87 years.

Smoky Lake Foundation Construction Meeting

- The board reviewed and approved \$1.2M being cut from the construction project;
- The Project Manager presented a projected cash flow, there is a concern over the timing of the funding.
- Site meetings will be held every two weeks once construction begins.

Emergency Management

- Discussed the Emergency Management Regional Agreement, it was suggested that each Council pass an enabling bylaw with the agreement attached as a Schedule.
- Trevor Tychykowsky will apply for a Fire and Emergency Preparedness Grant, the proposal will be presented a Joint Municipality Meeting.

RCDC (Administrators Meeting)

- Discussed a regional Coordinator as called for in the Recreation Grant;
- Discussed the possibility of a full time position (\$80,000.00)
 - Help apply for grants
 - Promote existing programs
 - Involved in programming
- Possible funding options
 - Mill rate
 - Per capita contributions
 - AHS Wellness Initiative
 - Provincial Seniors' Program
 - FCSS
 - Trider formula
- Vilna's monetary contribution would be very limited.

RCDC (General)

- Shane Pospisil reported there was a positive response to the Workbook with a suggestion to keep using this type of material;
- Some of those surveyed like the idea of a broader group to give a wide perspective;
- After considerable discussion it was decided that instead of adding members from the general public we would use a consultation process to get feedback;
- Shane and the CAO's are to work on the Terms of Reference;
- The original proposal reflected no further funding for the 2014 operation, however it was pointed out that the budget for this project only goes to the end of March 2014, so further discussion will be necessary to determine how to fund the project after that date.
 - The new Regional Grant criteria is not published yet
- It was felt that the negative attitude in the area is holding us back from growth and development.
- The committee heard a presentation from a camp service company who explained residential camp projects and issues they are faced with:
 - Road access, weight restrictions
 - Power, water, sewer, etc.
 - Location away from urban centres
 - 24 hour activity, engines running in winter
 - Require provincial approval in most cases;

- Engineers reports and Traffic Impact Analysis required;
- Contact Alberta Transportation regarding site capacities of several selected parcels;
- Request MLA support.
- County meets with Alberta Transportation twice a year.
- A number of sites for possible development has been prepared,
 - Access and Egress seem to be the major issue,
 - Usually developers would pay for this.
- Representatives from the group have met with the Minister of Transportation and the MLA to introduce the ideas;
- On Friday, September 20th five members of the RCDC will go to Athabasca to meet with regional officials to talk about issues.

COUNCILLOR FARMER'S REPORTS

Evergreen Regional Waste meeting – September 12th, 2013

- After hearing the quote of \$8,264.00 from Rocket Plumbing at the August meeting to install water cisterns at Evergreen site to replace the well that is to be closed, Ramona was asked to price the material locally. Ramona presented the Board with the costs of buying water tanks, pumps & piping for both the Maintenance Shop & the Scale House. The cost for both buildings would be \$5,553.89. The maintenance shop must have water before winter, so the board has approved spending up to \$3,000.00 to have a 1100 gallon water tank installed at the maintenance shop.
- St. Paul Councillor, Ken Kwiatkowski, presented an idea to the Board, instead of budgeting money each year for expenses, (like equipment, cell replacement, etc.) the Board should take out a loan from the bank & buy it that way. If there is a deficit at the end of the year, then Evergreen should get a loan from the bank, instead of requisitioning the municipalities to pay the difference. If Evergreen does have a surplus in the year, then that money would be put away to go towards building a new cell & equipment replacement. This was filed for information.
- Village of Vilna's requisition to date is \$779.47, as opposed to \$304.63 at this time last year.
- Grizzly Disposal Solutions Inc. has agreed to sign a contract for dumping at the Evergreen site at a rate of \$85.00 per tonne to a maximum of 2500 tonnes, that is all that can be accepted until approval for more is given by Municipal Affairs Ministerial Order. No word or correspondence has yet been received from Municipal Affairs approving the increase tonnage.
- Saturday, August 17th saw 3" of rain & hail fall in ½ hour at the Evergreen site. This and the amount of rain that we have received this year have driven up the cost of what Evergreen has had to pay to haul away the leachate. On that same day, lightning struck the scale house, which fried the electronics in the scale & the computer. Scale was down for a week. Cost of repair is \$12,000.00; Insurance has a \$5,000.00 deductible.

- Evergreen took in 1,000 tonnes of contaminated soil last week, another 1,000 tonnes coming from St. Brides next week. The revenue derived from this contaminated soil is \$20.00 per tonne, with an additional charge of \$200.00 for testing soil samples every 200 tonnes.
- All scrap metal, including appliances, has been picked up by the scrap dealer in the County of St. Paul from Evergreen & the transfer sites. The scrap dealer has already contacted Dave Franchuk in Smoky Lake for the collection of their scrap.
- See attached sheets for the comparison from last year to this year at Evergreen site.

Next meeting scheduled for Wed., October 9th @ 10:00 AM

N.E. Muni-Corr Board Meeting – September 9th, 2013

- Contractors are finishing the resurfacing of the Trail from Smoky Lake to Spedden, any discrepancies found are being repaired. Marianne was asked to issue a press release informing rate payers of the County that the equipment on the trail is owned by the contractors & is not County equipment. This request for the press release came from Smoky Lake County. It appears that some residents complain to the County whenever they see County equipment being used other than on the roads.
- The third person charged with setting the fire to the Beaver River Trestle is scheduled to appear in court at the end of October.
- A motion has been made to cut down & remove all of the underbrush under all of the trestles, not just the Beaver River trestle, then use spray to keep the underbrush under control.
- Gord MacDonald, of McDonald & Lawrence Timber framing was present at the Board meeting. He informed the Board that they are prepared to bid on the rebuilding of the trestle. He also informed the board that there is some other maintenance that could be done while the equipment is on site. Marianne & Gord were going to a meeting that afternoon at the MD of Bonnyville offices, to discuss the tendering options of the trestle. Gord informed the Board that at this time the trestle is straight & level, the “A” frame that was installed is working.
- Mr. MacDonald asked the Board if they were going to hire a Cost Consultant (\$5-6,000). He also suggested that the Board ask for a detailed construction schedule when it goes to tender.
- The 4 components of the repair at the Beaver River trestle are:
 - Repair the fire damage.
 - Install new hand railings to code for the entire span.
 - Repair damage at the west end of the trestle, this is maintenance that has not been done for several years.
 - Cut & remove underbrush under the trestle, then spray to keep the underbrush under control.
- Alison Redford was quoted as saying that she would back any recommendations put forth by Minister Starke, Minister in charge of Alberta trails. This was in context with the funding request to maintain the trails & also to rebuild the Beaver River trestle.
- Marianne will look further into the fundraising options of using a company called “Artez”. This fundraising company is currently being used by Lupus Society of Alberta, ALS Society of Alberta, Alberta Easter Seals, etc. There is a cost associated with using a company like this. Volunteers could do it the old fashioned way of printing up raffle tickets. This is now handled through the Social media, see attached.

Next regular meeting – Monday, October 7th, 2013 @ 10:00 AM
Organizational meeting – Monday, November 4th, 2013

Res 132-13 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the reports be accepted for information.

CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS

a) Citizens On Patrol, Offer to maintain public washrooms.

Res 133-13 Moved by Mayor Romanko that the Citizens On Patrol volunteers be approached to see if they would look after the maintenance of the Trail Washrooms for \$100.00 per month, with the Village continuing to provide supplies, repair costs and insurance.

CARRIED

b) Herman Petersen, development suit. The Village received a Statement of Claim from Herman Petersen regarding the ownership of a house involved in a tax recover sale in 2007. Administration has documented the actions of the municipality regarding this sale for the preparation of a formal defense against these allegations.

Res 134-13 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that Richard HOLETON be retained to represent the Village of Vilna in its defense against the Statement of Claim by Herman Petersen.

CARRIED

c) 2013 Election Calendar. Advertising has been published for the 2013 Council election.

7. BYLAWS & POLICIES

a. Bylaw #502-13

We have had no communication from the County regarding the proposed road closure. The Bylaw will be brought forward once they have responded.

8. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Res. 135-13 Moved by Councillor Farmer that payment of cheques #11930 – 11958 in the amount of \$268,452.59 and direct deposits in the amount of \$9,807.46 be accepted for information.

CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. Municipal Affair, re: Workshops
- b. Taxervice, re: Contracting tax recovery service
- c. Northern Alberta Development Council. Re: Vehicle Sharing
- d. County of St. Paul, re: Advocacy for Improving Highway 28
- e. Ken & Sheryl Klimchuk, re: Bonnie Lake
- f. Alberta Utilities Commission, re: Franchise registration

Res. 136-13 Moved by Councillor Farmer that the correspondence be accepted for information.

CARRIED

Res. 137-13 Moved by Councillor Farmer that a letter of support be forwarded to St. Paul County in their effort to have improvements done to Highway 28.
CARRIED

Mayor Romanko declared a brief recess at 8:10 p.m.

10. "IN-CAMERA"

Res. 138-13 Moved by Mayor Romanko that Council move "In-Camera" at 8:30 p.m. to discuss a land development issue.
CARRIED

Res. 139-13 Moved by Mayor Romanko that Council move "Out-of-Camera" at 9:10 p.m.
CARRIED

It was recommended that Administration contact Don Schuler to assist in the enforcement of the unsightly property claim against the property at 5145 - 49 Avenue.

NEXT MEETING:

- a) Organizational Meeting, October 28, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
- b) Regular Council Meeting, October 28, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

Res. 140-13 Mayor Romanko adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Donald Romanko, Mayor

Loni Leslie, CAO