

**VILLAGE OF THORSBY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
October 11, 2011**

- Call to Order: The regular meeting of Council was called to order by Mayor Rasch, at 7:00 P.M.
- Present: Mayor: Barry Rasch
- Councillors: Rick Hart
Joanne Osness
Cathryne Pharis
Mitch Williams
- C AO: Harold Wynne
- Recording Secretary: Christine Burke
- Delegation: Patti Herschel – Communities in Bloom
- Reporters: Coreena Vandecappelle, Thorsby Target
Dave Lazzarino, Leduc Representative
- Agenda: Councillor Williams requested the addition of Chamber of Commerce to section H2. Councillor Pharis requested an addition of 1 item for Closed Session. Councillor Osness requested as addition of 2 items for Closed Session and Mayor Rasch requested an addition under Correspondence, item F3, letter from Community Fit regarding the Terry Fox Run and additions under Discussion items, H3 Mundare visit and H4 EDA Economic Road Map. Mayor Rasch also requested one item for closed session.
- 2011-216 Moved by Councillor Hart to adopt the agenda as amended.
Carried.
- Councillor Osness requested that the September 13, 2011 minutes regarding motion 2011-204, Bulk Water Distribution Plan amended to recorded the motion as Carried, as it was not a recorded vote.
C.A.O. Wynne advised that due to flurry of activity at the last Council meeting, some motions had been missed and should be added.
2011-212 Motion by Councillor Williams to extend the meeting 15 minutes, *Carried*
2011-213 Motion by Councillor Hart to go into Closed Session at 10:06, *Carried*
2011-214 Motion by Councillor Hart to return to the Regular Meeting of Council at 10:20, *Carried*
2011-215 Motion by Councillor Osness in the open meeting that Daryl Rickard and Albert Bitz, be given a one-time only pay bonus to cover the time the former Foreman retired to when the new Public Works Manager was hired. The bonuses are to be based on the differential between their present wage and that of the former Public Works Foreman. *Carried*
- 2011-217 Motion by Councillor Osness to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council for September 13, 2011 as amended.
Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- 1. Invitation to 39/20 Alliance to attend a meeting in Thorsby**
C.A.O. Wynne advised Council that a meeting was scheduled for October 13, 2011 between the C.A.O.s and Public Works Managers for the four communities and suggested that suitable dates for joint 39/20 Alliance Council/C.A.O meeting could be reviewed during that meeting, if Council would like to put forward dates that they available in November.
Council advised agreeable dates would be November 1 or 14, 2011
- 2. Fire Prevention Week Advertisements**
C.A.O. Wynne confirmed that advertisements had been run in the Leduc Representative and Pipestone Flyer in recognition of our Volunteer Firefighters.
- 3. Naming Rights for Rec. Complex – Draft Agreement**
C.A.O. Wynne confirmed that the Agreement had been drafted and was with our Lawyers for final review before signature
- 4. Village of Thorsby Flag Order and flag to MP Calkins**
C.A.O. Wynne and Recording Secretary Burke confirmed the flag order had been placed and a letter prepared for MP Calkins in preparation for receipt of the order. Councillor Hart suggested that the flag should be presented to MP Calkins in Chambers when the fall session of Parliament is complete and dependent upon his availability. Council agreed that this would be appropriate.

DELEGATIONS/PETITIONS

1. Patti Herschel – Communities in Bloom

Mayor Rasch welcomed Ms. Herschel to the meeting of Council.

Ms. Herschel apologized that her report was not included in the Council package, but she had only just received her computer back from the shop.

Ms. Herschel reported that it had been a busy year for Communities in Bloom as there had been 4 core members, however, the community had been wonderful pitching in with support for projects.

She advised that they had started the season with an Open House, with prizes, seed papers and giveaways. They had launched their website and come up with a new pamphlet, they had planted an extra 20 hangings baskets and they had removed the barrels from 52nd Street.

Ms. Herschel advised that CIB had planter towers this year and had run the adopt a barrel/tulip planter program. She advised they had planted a lot of trees and six planter barrels at the Lions Park. CIB had held a successful Mother's Day Bizarre at the Rec. Complex, but next year would be pushing the event back to the May long weekend as Mother's Day was just a little too early for the plants to come out. In June they had the run a trip raffle, a garage sale and the rain barrel fundraisers. Ms. Herschel informed Council that the village had not taken part in the CIB competition for 2011, but had been recognized as Friend status from the Provincial CIB Program and presented Council with the certificate they had been awarded for display in the Village Office.

She informed Council that their composting grant had been denied for this year, but they were planning to reapply for next year and were putting together a backyard composting program for this fall on October 27th.

They ran a bird seed food course for children which they felt complemented last year's Bird House course. Ms. Herschel also advised that CIB had participated in Community Awareness Night. Plans for next year include joint projects with the Lions for more trees at the Lions Park and continuance of trail & park development projects, composting courses and possibly a community composting site. CIB and ATB hope to have joint projects on displaying culture and possibility the setup of a heritage garden. Ms. Herschel informed Council that they would like to be able to financially support CIB members to go on courses and attend the Provincial Awards Banquets etc. and asked Council for their colour preferences for the tulip planters on Main Street before the end of November, which is their deadline for the plant order for next year.

Councillor Pharis thanked Ms. Herschel and Communities in Bloom for all their wonderful work and making the community look so beautiful. Mayor Rasch also added his thanks and thoughts on the significant value the program added to the community. Councillor Hart also added that the previous week, County Councillors from Leduc County had also commentated on the tower planters and thanked CIB for a job well done.

Ms. Herschel left some samples of Communities in Bloom seed paper and their new pamphlet.

Mayor Rasch thanked Ms. Herschel for her attendance and report to Council.

REPORTS/RESOLUTIONS/BYLAWS

1. Administration Reports

CAO Wynne advised all the reports were in the Council packages and enquired if Council had any questions.

Council Osness raised a question and wished to offer a suggestion to administration regarding the current smell and taste of the water from the water distribution plant. She enquired if the taste and smell from the water would remain until all was switched over to the new plant.

C.A.O. Wynne responded that this was so and added that this had also occurred on previous occasions in past years. He informed Council that it is as a result of organics in the water. The organics can be introduced to the system, as was the case recently, when we had to flush the south reservoir following a power outage and water was pumped back. Filling the ponds as we prepare to commission the new plant and we stir up the water, disturbs the organics and creates the smells and taste that are occurring.

Following complaints from residents and business owners, Councillor Osness made the suggestion that with Council's agreement, administration run an article in the paper to explain the situation and what the expected timeline for resolution would be.

Councillor Hart added that most of council had received similar complaints and concerns.

2011-218 Moved by Councillor Hart to accept all administration reports as information.
Carried.

2011-219 Moved by Councillor Osness to accept Protective Services as information.
Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Alberta Rec & Parks Assn. 2011 A.V. Pettigrew Award

Mayor Rasch expressed Council's delight that the Village had been awarded the A.V Pettigrew Award following nomination from our neighbor community, Leduc County. The award is presented in recognition of promotion of recreation and quality of life through recreation in the community. The award will be presented at the annual ARPA Conference banquet. Councillor Hart suggested that Mayor Rasch and C.A.O. Wynne attend to accept the award on behalf of the village. Mayor Rasch stated that it wasn't often that we get the opportunity to be recognized for the great things we do in our community and it was important, that we seize the opportunity.

2011-220 Moved by Councillor Hart that Mayor Rasch and C.A.O. Wynne attend on behalf of the Village to accept the award subject to confirmation of C.A.O. Wynne's availability.
Carried.

2. Thorsby Regional Emergency Management Agency Vehicle donation

C.A.O. Wynne explained that the unit would be an excellent addition and anchor for the Regional Emergency Program that was currently under review and would be discussed at the upcoming 39/20 Alliance meeting.

He advised that the vehicles we have received are quite special, and include a Command Vehicle with booster and repeater stations and which allows us to stay in touch with all our fire assets during fire situations and which will eliminate previous communication issues. The second is a full size 1 ton, which has been fitted to fight prairie and grass fires, and the third vehicle will provide a field command center with equipment and marshaling facilities and be a touchstone for victims. The maintenance of these vehicles will be budgeted for under usual protocols and we might possibility even see some revenue streams if utilized in a regional emergency situation, should one arise

Mayor Rasch acknowledged one of the largest assets in our community is the Fire Department and Council is happy to support it.

3. Community Fit Letter – Terry Fox Run

The letter thanked Council for volunteering and supporting the event, volunteers were in short supply on the day and they were grateful of the support of council volunteers. Mayor Rasch commented that Council was happy to volunteer for the event.

2011-221 Moved by Councillor Hart to accept the correspondence items as information.
Carried.

INFORMATION ITEMS

- 1. Thank you from Mr. Ted Billar**
- 2. Community Fit Ltd. – Christmas Gala**
- 3. Leduc & District Victim Services – Executive Summary**

2011-222 Moved by Councillor Williams to accept items 1 through 3 as information.
Carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Artic Spa's Naming Rights Agreement

C.A.O. Wynne advised, this item is now somewhat redundant as the Agreement has been drafted and is now with Lawyers for review.

2. Chamber of Commerce

Councillor Williams explained to Council that the Chamber has been exploring the possibility of creating Thorsby Dollars and is now seeking permission from Council to use the Thorsby Logo on its dollar notes that are to be created.

2011-222

Moved by Councillor Pharis that the Chamber of Commerce be given permission to use the Village logo on their Thorsby Dollar.

Carried

3. Mundare Trip

Mayor Rasch advised that Mundare has recently undergone some rejuvenation of their downtown core, as is Thorsby looking to. Communication has taken place with their Mayor and they are eager to meet with us to show case their community.

Dates for possible visit were put forward subject to mutual suitability for Mundare – Mayor Rasch to offer November 5 and 12 for the proposed visit.

4. EDA Road Map Steering Group for Regional Excellence

EDA is looking to pull together four meetings for a steering committee. Councillor Hart advised he would like a little more information on the intent of the meetings and wondered if the EDA could make presentation to Council. C.A.O. Wynne informed council that he believed the intent of the meetings are an economic development based initiative, looking at what we have to offer in areas throughout the region, inventorying our resources and will be placed on the 39/20 Alliance C.A.O. meeting taking place this Thursday for discussion. Councillor Pharis felt is important that we have a voice. Councillor Hart felt more comfortable after the comments from C.A.O. Wynne, but thought more information would be good and that confirmation that it would not just be another committee promoting Nisku and the airport should be made.

Mayor Rasch to investigate further and email Councillor Hart some details and bring back more information to Council.

5. Central Alberta Memorial Riders Society

Mayor Rasch informed Council that he had received and email from the Society indicating that they would like to meet with them and was bringing it to forward at the time just as a heads up.

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councillor Osness

- Met with the FCSS Village
- Met with FCSS County – Committee agreed that the 2012 interim budget be submitted to Council for approval. Noted that the Province has not increased funding over recent years for FCSS programs and therefore it is difficult to balance the budget
- Library Board – Happy with Emergency Exit push door replacement by the village, They would like to know if the ceiling tiles are going to be replaced at the same time as the lights under this year's budget, or if they would be in next years. Also they're concerned with insurance coverage, as when the Fire in Slave Lake burnt down the Library, their contents were not insured. They would like to make sure they were covered under the village umbrella policy. Councillor Osness had advised she thought so, but bought it back to administration for confirmation.
- Attended AUMA conference – good, got a lot out of it.

Councillor Hart

- Attended Leduc Foundation – concerned in the direction Alberta Government is going in. Hoping housing would be kept separate under housing. Lots of privatization going on, concerned about competition and saturation of services. Performed annual review on the Director.
- Meeting with Leduc County – Went very well and felt we are building new era of cooperation with the County

Councillor Pharis

- AUMA
- Leduc County meeting
- Seniors Planning Board - Have their calendar out and are planning lots of activities
- CRB Housing Meeting – attending symposium on affordable housing on 13th

Councillor Williams

- Leduc County – Felt the meeting went amazingly well
- Chamber – initiatives already mentioned with the Thorsby Dollars. Reported that their elections taking place this week

Mayor Rasch

- AUMA – Very excited about the takeaways from the conference. Possibly secured free recycling bins for the Lions Park. Additional thought that we should send letters to new President Linda Sloan and thanks to Darren Aldous for his service
- CRB Meeting – Received an update from Port Alberta, their office is in the City of Edmonton
- Leduc County – Very happy with the meeting
- Rec Board – Partnering with the Lions to put on Halloween social

FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Cheque Register 22355 to 022419
2. Budget Report, October 9, 2011

2011-223 Moved by Councillor Hart to accept the cheque register as information.
Carried.

Councillor Hart wished to refer the budget report to Committee of the Whole meeting as he had some questions. Recording secretary Burke pointed out to Council an error in the budget report under 2-72-130-00 on page 8 of 19. A corrected version was requested by Councillor Hart for the Committee of the Whole meeting.

2011-224 Moved by Councillor Hart to recess for 10 minutes at 7:59 P.M.
Carried.

2011-225 Mayor Rasch called the meeting back to order at 8:12 P.M.
Carried.

CLOSED SESSION

2011-226 Moved by Councillor Osness that the meeting go into Closed Session at 8:12 P.M.
Carried.

2011-227 Moved by Councillor Williams to return to the regular meeting of Council at 8:55 P.M.
Carried.

ADJOURNMENT

2011-228 Moved by Councillor Hart to adjourn the regular meeting of Council at 8:55 P.M.
Carried.

Harold Wynne, CAO

Barry Rasch, Mayor

Date Adopted