

**VILLAGE OF THORSBY**  
**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**December 6, 2012**  
**7:00 PM**

Call to Order: The Special meeting of Council was called to order by Mayor Rasch at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Mayor: Barry Rasch

Councillors: Rick Hart  
Mitch Williams  
Joanne Osness  
Cathryne Pharis

CAO: Bob Payette

**DISCUSSION REGARDING CHILLER UNIT REPLACEMENT**

CAO went through the current situation regarding the breakdown of the chiller unit including the potential options and potential cost regarding securing a new unit and rental costs for a chiller in the interim;

- We were going to contract Alpha Laval to acid wash and dye test all the plates. This would allow for the gaskets to be properly sealed and would also reveal if any other plates had cracks or pinholes. They are not able to do this for 2-3 weeks. Gateway will manually clean the plates and then reinstall them and pressure test them. The expected costs are as follows:
  - Clean Plates - \$7,500
  - Install & Pressure Test - \$4,500
  - Acid (to neutralize the contaminated brine) - \$5,000
  - Ammonia - \$1,000
  - Labour for chiller dismantle - \$2,500
  - **TOTAL - \$20,500**
- We will have to pay for the dismantle labour, acid & ammonia even if we opt not to fix the chiller. (\$8,500)
- It should be noted that there is no guarantee that the chiller will function properly or even last the remainder of the season. WE are not sure as to why the plates are breaking down.
- It is highly recommended that if the chiller is repaired right now that we still replace it in the off season. The approximate cost of a new, installed chiller is \$55,000-\$60,000.

Also, our floor temperature (under the ice) is currently sitting at 27°F when it should be at 16°F. We are trying to keep the ice cold using natural air but there are challenges to consider as all the boiler pipes run across the roof of the ice rink. So, we need to carefully monitor the temperature to ensure that we do not freeze those pipes. The warmer temperatures have not been helpful as well. Any extended period without our ice plant running does increase the chance that our current ice could become poor quality and possibly need to be redone.

Councilor Osness recommended that administration contact Leduc County asap to discuss funding support options, and that the Village would require a committee of funding support upfront, as opposed to the current method of the County paying back the Village after the completion of a project, stating that the Village can no longer afford to front all the cost of capital repairs. It was recommended by Mayor Rasch that this would be an excellent discussion item for the Leduc County intergovernmental committee in the new year.

Councilor Williams recommended that administration contact the user groups to discuss potential funding support.

Councilor Hart reiterated the need to approach the minor hockey association for their support for a new chiller, Councilor Williams commented on his concern regarding the potential tax increases that may be associated with unbudgeted capital expenses.

Councillor Hart discussed information regarding Bill C45 as this will have ramifications regarding potential grants and job creation, and requested that Administration look into our insurance coverage for this item. Councilor Osness recommended that Council consider approaching Leduc County to discuss our cost share agreement percentage of funding support for recreation operations

considering that Village of Warburg has recently was able to negotiate an increase in funding from Leduc County and requested that CAO set up a meeting in the new year. Mayor Rasch requested information from CAO regarding the work completed from the summer regarding the ice plant, CAO replied that he is currently reconciling the information for Leduc County and will be able to provide Council with a final report in the next few weeks. Mayor Rasch confirmed with CAO that the information provided was for information only and that no decisions would be required until next Council meeting based upon additional research and options from Leduc County.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor Hart to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M.  
*Carried.*

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Bob Payette, CAO

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Barry Rasch, Mayor

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Date Adopted