



MINUTES

County Council
Regular Meeting

County of Grande Prairie No. 1

December 22, 2014 Council Meeting

Meeting Type : Regular Council Meeting

Date : Monday, December 22, 2014

Start time : 10:00 AM

Location : County of Grande Prairie No. 1 Administration Building

Minutes

ATTENDANCE

Present were:

1. Reeve

- Leanne Beaupre

2. Deputy Reeve

- Ross Sutherland

3. Council

- Daryl Beeston
- Corey Beck
- Brock Smith
- Richard Harpe
- Bob Marshall
- Harold Bulford
- Peter Harris

4. Chief Administrative Officer

- Bill Rogan

5. Directors

- Dale Van Volkingburgh
- Arlen Miller
- Nick Lapp

7. Recording Secretary

- Megan McCormick

Absent:

5. Directors

- Dawn Sauvé

6. Manager of Legislative Services

- Sheryle Runhart

**CALL TO ORDER
AND QUORUM**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. with the singing of O'Canada.

**Herb Weber,
Facilities
Specialist**

(RECOGNITIONS AND
INTRODUCTIONS)
(Issue #20141208001)

Nick Lapp, Director of Planning, introduced Herb Weber, the new Facilities Specialist who has been working as part of the Corporate Services team since December 15, 2014. In addition to facilities maintenance experience, Herb also brings over 30 years in the construction industry. Council welcomed Mr. Weber to the County.

**ADOPTION OF
AGENDA**

Resolution #CM20141222.1001

MOVED by B. MARSHALL that the agenda for the December 22, 2014 Council Meeting (2014/12/22) be approved with the additions presented.

- Reeve Beaupre added Alberta Transportation Update (Item 11.6)

Carried

**MINUTES
APPROVAL**

Resolution #CM20141222.1002

MOVED by P. HARRIS that the minutes for December 1, 2014 Council Meeting (2014/12/01) be approved as presented.

Carried

Resolution #CM20141222.1003

MOVED by H. BULFORD that the minutes for December 8, 2014 Council Meeting (2014/12/08) be approved as presented.

Carried

**10:10 a.m. - Snow
Plowing
Permission
Request - RR #41**

(DELEGATIONS AND
APPOINTMENTS)
(Issue #20141117006)

The County received a request from a resident on RR #41 to enter into an agreement with the County of Grande Prairie, providing permission to allow snow removal by the resident. The area requested is on RR #41 from SH 674 south to the County bridge. This landowner is the only resident accessing RR #41 on this portion of road and it is a "deadend" road. The resident would like to complete snow removal in addition to the removal completed by County Forces.

Public Works does not have a concern with the ratepayer completing snow removal on this portion of road as they are the only resident at this time. Should County Council approve entering into an agreement, the agreement would include the standard and conditions to the snow removal and conditions if there is further development in the area.

There was discussion surrounding:

- existing snow removal contracts;
- need for contract and terms;
- due diligence and liability;
- remuneration.

Resolution #CM20141222.1004

MOVED by C. BECK to enter into a one year snow removal and maintenance contract with the landowner allowing snow removal on RR #41 from SH #674 south to the County bridge and to report back to Council with recommendations at the end of the contract.

Carried

**LOT 2, BLOCK 1,
PLAN 092 7811;
PT.
NE-33-70-06-W6M
- AG TO RM-1 -
BEAIRSTO &
ASSOCIATES
ENGINEERING
LTD. / THE
RANCH
PROPERTIES
INC. (FILE NO.
PLLUB20141415)
BYLAW
2680-14-073
(THIRD
READING)
(BYLAWS)
(Issue #20141208003)**

Bylaw 2680-14-073 received First and Second Reading on December 8, 2014. Administration is seeking Third Reading. There were concerns brought forward about Bylaw 2680-14-073 receiving third reading ahead of the completion of the Area Structure Plan and appropriate road construction in the area.

Resolution #CM20141222.1005

MOVED by P. HARRIS that Bylaw 2680-14-073 to re-designate PT. NE-33-70-06-W6M from an Agricultural (AG) District to a Rural Light Industrial (RM-1) District be read a third time and finally passed.

Carried

**Whispering
Ridge School
Site
(UNFINISHED BUSINESS)
(Issue #20141102002)**

The County has received letters from Peace Wapiti School Division and Grande Prairie Catholic Schools each indicating an interest in locating a school within Whispering Ridge. There is currently one school site outlined in the Balisky Hodges ASP for Whispering Ridge which would be approximately 17.5 acres in size. The County currently holds title to approximately 7.5 acres of this property with the balance to be dedicated through the Phase 7 subdivision of Whispering Ridge currently in circulation. While the ASP identifies the site for school purposes, there is currently no agreement with either School Board regarding the provision of land for school purposes. The site would be large enough to serve as a double school site (which was an option previously explored with Alberta Education and the School Boards as well). At this juncture, the County hasn't committed to one Board or the other in terms of providing the site.

An alternative /additional school site has been identified in consultation with the Developer of Whispering Ridge which would be located in the south west quarter section, however, this remains in preliminary draft form and the acquisition of the same would be dependent on market conditions. It is recommended that County Administration meet with the two Superintendents to explore options of sharing the same site and discuss the timing of a second site being made available. A meeting would likely take place in January or February 2015 after which Administration would report back to County Council.

Resolution #CM20141222.1006

MOVED by B. SMITH that County Council direct Administration to meet with the Superintendents from Peace Wapiti School Division and Grande Prairie Catholic School Board to discuss options for school sites within Whispering Ridge.

Carried

**CCI Wireless -
Request for
Letter of Support**

(NEW BUSINESS)
(Issue #20141204005)

CCI is requesting a letter of support to accompany a federal grant called "Connecting Canadians". The program will provide incentives to the private sector to provide improved internet services in areas of the country that currently do not have high speed internet service. Administration supports this request.

Resolution #CM20141222.1007

MOVED By R. HARPE to endorse the letter of support for CCI for the Connecting Canadians Federal Grant Program as attached and any subsequent requests to any ISP that is applying for the "Connecting Canadians Grant".

Carried

FCSS Contracts

(NEW BUSINESS)
(Issue #20141104008)

All FCSS contracts expire December 31, 2014 and are up for renewal. All contracts are cost recovery plus 11% administration fee. FCSS contracts are with the Town of Beaverlodge to administer their FCSS program and with the Town of Wembley and Village of Hythe to run their Home Support Programs. The Village of Hythe Council has signed the agreement for three years of services - expiring December 31, 2017. The Town of Wembley has signed the agreement for three years of service - expiring December 31, 2017.

The Town of Beaverlodge has requested an extension of the current agreement for three months ending March 31, 2015. This request was made due to the change in circumstances regarding the Child and Family Services contract and the funding that came with it. That contract expires March 31, 2015 and will not be renewed. The extension of the FCSS agreement would give the County time to work out a plan with Beaverlodge for what services will be offered and/or how we can make up the loss of funding. With the loss of funding we will be losing a .6 FTE staff person which will effect service and programming.

Resolution #CM20141222.1008

MOVED by B. MARSHALL to approve the contracts with the Town of Wembley and the Village of Hythe and extend the current contract with the Town of Beaverlodge until March 31, 2015.

Carried

**Request for
Sponsorship -
Canadian Home
Builders
Association**

(NEW BUSINESS)
(Issue #20141215014)

The Canadian Home Builders Awards of Excellence Gala is taking place on January 31, 2015 at the Pomeroy Hotel and Conference Centre. There are two sponsorship opportunities available for \$600 and \$1500. The County has declined sponsorship in the past however they are an active association within the County and part of the Grande Prairie and District Chamber of Commerce.

Resolution #CM20141222.1009

MOVED By B. SMITH that Council take no action.

**Employee
Engagement
Survey results**

(NEW BUSINESS)
(Issue #20141216007)

Bi-annually the County conducts an Employee Engagement Survey. Employee engagement refers to employees' willingness to 'go the extra mile', take initiative and be an ambassador for the organization. Factors that contribute to engagement are compensation, work environment, performance feedback, professional growth, work/life balance, information and communication, teamwork, innovation, customer focus, immediate management, senior leadership and organizational vision. The County's results are excellent - above the benchmark of other public sector organizations and up 2% from 2012's results.

There was discussion surrounding:

- Declining areas of the survey and plans to address those areas;
- Manager and employee meetings;
- Information and communication;
- Strategic Planning.

**Personnel Policy
L7 proposed
revision**

(NEW BUSINESS)
(Issue #20141216008)

Personnel Policy L7 has a number of revisions - housekeeping items, updates to reflect current legislation, and changes related to recent staff negotiations. Proposed revisions are to the following:

- Appointments & Vacancies
- Rehiring County Retirees
- Classification, Job Description and Performance Evaluation
- Leaves of Absence
- Sick Leave
- Modified Work
- Salary Continuance Benefit for Employees in Receipt of WCB Benefits
- Supplement to Employment Insurance Maternity Benefits Plan
- Annual Vacations
- Statutory Holidays
- Pay Days
- Benefits
- Confidentiality
- Corrective Action and Dismissal
- Long Service Awards
- Apprenticeship
- Conference, Seminar, Workshop Attendance
- Public Information
- Disputes
- Addition of Policy Authority statement allowing County Administrator to make policy revisions for this administrative policy with all changes to be approved by Council.

There was discussion surrounding:

- Modified work programs and flex hours;
- Probation periods;
- Driver's abstracts.

Resolution #CM20141222.1010

MOVED By B. MARSHALL Accept the policy revisions as proposed with the addition of WILL require a driver's abstract to item 5.10 and amended to include more clarity on probationary period to "may include credit for the time in the position.

Carried

**Highway 43X
Right In and Out**
(NEW BUSINESS)
(Issue #20141230002)

Highway Right In and Out at Highway 43X has been approved by Alberta Transportation. Discussions will begin with Public Works to determine how it will be built.

**Alberta
Economic
Development
Authority (AEDA)
Roadshow**
(WORKSHOPS,
CONFERENCES,
SEMINARS)
(Issue #20141216009)

The Grande Prairie Chamber Luncheon is scheduled for Monday, January 26, 2015 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Guest speakers Tood Hirsch & Robert Fernandez will provide an overview of the Report on Competitiveness: Alberta 2013 published by the Alberta Economic Development Authority (AEDA). This event conflicts with County Council meeting.

Resolution #CM20141222.1011

MOVED By B. MARSHALL that Council take no action.

Carried

**Internet Business
Case - Strategic
Priority
2014-2015**
(INFORMATION ITEMS)
(Issue #20141204006)

The Internet Business Case was one of Council's "now" priorities. The committee met and looked at opportunities within the County and felt there was enough private suppliers within the County to further invest in wire and is recommending no investment is required by the County at this time. As such Administration would like to make this priority complete.

There was some discussion surrounding:

- infrastructure and funding from the Province;
- Provincial and Federal standards;
- comments about slow or inadequate service;
- the County's internet supplier contract.

Resolution #CM20141222.1012

MOVED By P. HARRIS to accept as Information only.

Carried

**Monthly
Statement -
October 31, 2014**
(INFORMATION ITEMS)
(Issue #20141211002)

Report includes year to date financial operations & capital, monthly cash flows, investments and accounts paid for October 2014.

Report is submitted monthly for Council's information.

Resolution #CM20141222.1013

MOVED By R. HARPE that Council accept this report as information.

Carried

Thank You Cards
(INFORMATION ITEMS)
(Issue #20141212002)

Administration received a few thank you cards from community groups thanking the County of Grande Prairie for funding.

- Martial Arts Club - received a 2014 operating grant
- PARDS - received sponsorship for their Dine and Dance event.

**Council
promotional item
donations
expenditure -
September 30 to
December 12**

(INFORMATION ITEMS)
(Issue #20141212003)

Council has given out a total of \$1,260 in promotional items/gifts from September 30, 2014 to December 12, 2014.

It was noted that Grande Spirit Foundation received two promotional gift baskets. Ms Sandra Shepherd noted that they were separate requests, one for the "Friends of Grande Spirit" and one for the "Grande Spirit Foundation". The "Friends of Grande Spirit" are not a society and as such operate through "Grande Spirit Foundation" in order to be able to provide receipts.

**COUNCIL
REPORTS**

Councillor Smith:

- Peace Library System received notice of GST exemption; Reeve Beaupre received a letter confirming the per capita increase;
- Artist at the museum; info from the effected ratepayers was that Mr. Sutherland was a wonderful man.

Councillor Harpe:

- Updated in the status of the new proposed Grande Spirit Project with respect to provincial approval.

Councillor Beck attended:

- Play at Webster Hall;
- Teepee Creek Christmas Concert.

Councillor Sutherland attended:

- Grande Prairie Catholic School Board meeting;
- Staff Christmas Lunch.

Councillor Marshall attended:

- Catholic School Board Meeting;
- Meeting with Encana; they will not be as active in south area;
- Conference call with Water North setting direction and meeting dates;
- County Family Christmas Party;
- PAZA Board Meeting;
- Building Committee Dino Museum;
- Staff Christmas Lunch;
- Public Works Road Construction Meeting;
- MLA Everett's MacDonald's Christmas Open House.

Councillor Harris attended:

- Wembley Coop Seed Cleaning Meeting;
- Beaverlodge Hospital Meeting, Minister Mandel and Minister Drysdale were in attendance and commented they were going to find an innovative approach to fund the Health Care Center.

Councillor Bulford attended:

- Special Olympics Committee Meeting; low on volunteers will be doing a drive;
- Alberta College of Paramedics Town Hall meeting; felt Alberta Health Services was trying to accommodate rural fire halls etc, didn't get same feeling from ACP and that they were not willing to negotiate, asked about doing testing in this area and the response was no;
- Bezanson Christmas Concert;
- Nitehawk Board Meeting, looking at having buses from Eastlink Centre to Nitehawk over Christmas break and will have entertainment in the chalet.

Councillor Beeston attended:

- County Library Board Meeting; working on plan of service to be done in new year
- Grande Prairie Sports Council; tryout days were very successful, and there has been a request for tryout day for adults;
- Chamber After 5;
- Comments from ratepayers about great job on snow removal.

Reeve Beaupre:

- Co-Host NAEL meeting; presentation by Alberta Health Services , spoke to concerns with MFR, and questions surrounding continuation of Floridation as a request may be coming from Aquatera in the future;
- Town Hall with Alberta Health Services/Alberta College of Paramedics, impressed with Alberta Health Services they have tried hard to accomodate First Responders, they have used what happened in the north zone to pull people to other levels;
- Year End Reviews with Papers and Radio Stations;
- Community Futures, Alberta Government has changed some of contract work, notice in new year they will be taking them back. Working towards strategies to go into communities and do more targeted projects for them like self employment.

**ADMINISTRATIVE
REPORTS**

CAO Bill Rogan:

- Reminded Countil to speak to IT about phones when travelling.

Dale Van Volkingburgh:

- RFPs to get equipment coming in;
- Right in Right out will require clarification with Transportation.

Nick Lapp:

- Nothing to report.

Arlen Miller:

- Raised \$2100, total \$3500 for a County employee battling cancer to help with medical costs at the Christmas lunch.

In Camera - Land

(IN CAMERA)
(Issue #20141215025)

Resolution #CM20141222.1014

MOVED by H. BULFORD that the meeting go in to In-Camera, at 11:37 a.m., pursuant to Section 197 of the Municipal Government Act, 2000, Chapter M-26 and amendments thereto, and Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter F-25 and amendments thereto, to discuss Privileged Information with regards to the In Camera - Land.

Carried

Resolution #CM20141222.1015

MOVED by H. BULFORD that the meeting come Out-of-Camera at 12:03 p.m.

Carried

ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #CM20141222.1016

MOVED by P. HARRIS that the meeting adjourn at 12:06 p.m.

Carried

These minutes approved the _____ day of _____ 2015.

Reference # _____

REEVE

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR