

Minutes; FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NOBLEFORD HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 906 HIGHWAY AVENUE, NOBLEFORD on April 4, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Council Mayor Don McDowell, Councillor Don Holinaty, Councillor Marguerite Wobick, Councillor Pete Pelley, Councillor Don Vincent

Staff Kirk Hofman, Chief Administrative Officer; Lisa Wiebe, Recording Secretary

Call to Order Mayor McDowell called meeting to order at 6:31 pm

Gallery None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

April 4, 2016 Agenda #98-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to accept the agenda for the April 4, 2016 regular council meeting with addition of in camera item regarding legal / land.

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 16, 2016 Minutes #99-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to approve the minutes of the March 16, 2016 regular Council Meeting with changing the cap for ORRSC fees from \$65,000 to \$66,099.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

Nobleford Public Works Foreman, Logan Howes – 6:35 pm

April 4th 2016 Report to Council - Logan Howes, Nobleford Public Works Foreman Water Treatment Issues from the past year:

Our water treatment plant is running well, and we have had no issues that impacted the quality of the water that we provide. Last year we supplied over 240 thousand cubic meters to our customers! However, we have experienced several issues which have impacted our operation capacity in the short term.

- **Pre filter strainers plugging up.**

Both of our Pall Membrane skids are equipped with self backwashing pre strainers. These strainers remove any debris prior to reaching the membranes.

For the past several years we have experienced issues with the pre filter strainers plugging up on both skids. The problem is a result of large amounts of shrimp and or algae in the raw water. To help minimize the problem in the future we are now dosing algaecide into the raw supply line between the Canal and the Reservoirs. We feel that aside from the Algaecide the best action is preventing raw water with high organic load from entering the reservoirs to begin with. We will be doing daily checks on the canal water quality during pumping; shutting the pumps off when the canal water quality deteriorates.

- **Air Compressor Failure in WTP**

During February of 2016 we experienced problems with the Air Compressors at the WTP. They were both shutting off on a high temperature alarm. The issue turned out to be caused by failure of the thermostatic valve in the oiling system, which was not allowing the oil to flow through the cooler. This caused not only high heat buildup but also rapid oil deterioration, which caused further issues with the intake valve on one of the compressors. All problems have since been corrected, and we have ordered spare parts in order to quickly fix the issue should it arise in the future.

- **Pump shaft replacement**

During the annual pump maintenance in 2015 it was determined that one of our distribution pumps is showing excessive wear on the shaft. We have been in discussion with Chamco to have the shaft replaced, however they have been delivering less than desirable service and obtaining an accurate quote has been frustrating. I have contacted another company (NatPro) which comes highly recommended by the Village of Barnwell. I have inquired about obtaining a quote on shaft replacement from them as well; however I won't have any numbers from them until later in the week.

The shaft replacement and pump inspection will take approx. 3 weeks at normal pace, however if we wish to have it rushed I'm told Chamco can pull it on April 11th and have it ready for reinstallation on the 19th. As watering season appears to be arriving early this year we need to either do it ASAP, or postpone until fall if possible. I have asked the service tech from Chamco his thoughts on waiting until fall, he said it was a bit risky but probably ok as long as the packing holds up. If the decision is made to wait, I recommend having the pump serviced and inspected again as soon as possible to verify that the worn shaft has not gotten to a critical point.

Wastewater:

We are very fortunate here in Nobleford to have the lagoon system that we do. We have no lift station as it is positioned in a low spot, and we use an evaporation pond and thus have no discharge. This is rather unique among municipalities, and results in far less time and money being spent. Last year we started

using a product called Acti-Zyme to treat our lagoons, and saw a good decrease in sludge buildup. We are planning to continue using this product for at least the next few years.

General Public Works notes:

- Cody is enrolled in Level 1 certification prep course for April and May, with possible exam in June
 - Field boundary has new page wire fence
 - Gophers dead
 - Shop much more organized!
 - Backhoe!
 - Grass greenish already, mowing season starts soon.
 - Mowers – Toro is ready, Bad Boy and JD to be ready by end of this week (pending JD battery replacement).
 - Irrigation by may long weekend if not sooner, depending on weather.
 - Compost site looks good
 - Garbage pickup working well with 2 trucks
 - Street sweeping, major routs done (Highway, King, Railway, Centennial, Rubie Cresc)
 - To be re done and the rest to be completed later on this month.
 - Speed bumps to go back in, placement the same?
- Council asked about the aluminum content as shown on one of the analytical report samples. Logan explained that the coagulant (clear-pack) was causing this as usage was reduced in winter which enabled it to get through the filter. Usage has been increased to appropriately correct this. The level was not a health concern though; it has to be retested if it says MAC on the report.
 - CAO shared that the village is required to comply with the approval from Alberta Environment, as well as comply with GCDWQ guidelines for community drinking water quality. As the village has to function under these, the water quality is very closely monitored.
 - Cody is enrolled in level 1 certification prep course and will be doing this in April and May. He may be able to write his test in June but since he hasn't been employed full time for a year at that point, he may have to wait until fall.

Public Works Report

#100-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to receive as information the report from Public Works Foreman, Logan Howes.

CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS, Please refer to CAO report.

Emergency Services Joint Council Meeting Review, March 30, 2016

CAO Hofman and Mayor McDowell attended Joint Emergency Services meeting on March 30, 2016 in Picture Butte. CAO complimented Mayor McDowell on chairing the meeting well. Mayor McDowell felt there will be a bit more communication with the county in the future. Communication should be between CAOs, not directly to fire chiefs. Darryl Beaton's position within the county was not directly discussed. The county was defensive about the articles that were published but did end up apologizing. Recommended is to reassure the fire department and the village of the confidence council and staff has in the emergency services, possibly via an article in the Sunny South News.

#101-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to receive as information the review of the Emergency Services Joint Council meeting on March 30, 2015 and information included In CAO report.

CARRIED

Alberta Emergency Management

A table top exercise is planned for October 18, 2016, focusing on evacuation. Risks come mostly from the rail track and what gets carried, and the likelihood of a fire with the normal SW winds experienced in Nobleford. Also to be considered in an emergency situation is setting up security and what would be required to get residents back into the village. Outlook across burn pit is a significant risk that will be identified in response plan.

#102-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to receive as information the plan to have a table top evacuation exercise in October 2016 with AEM, Mark Murphy, using the \$1000 grant that was received for Fire Services and Emergency Preparedness.

CARRIED

Water Pump Shaft Repair

Current estimates for repair a damaged shaft at the water treatment plant are \$10,000 – \$12,000. Should this expense comes from the capital reserve or be budgeted as an operation cost for 2016. A possible increase in 2017 utility rates could come out of this but would likely be minimal. Also to be considered is that an election is coming up and the majority of council will be new. Capital will be needed in the future and it would be easier to raise it a little bit now rather than require a large amount in the future.

#103-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to fund the repair of the water shaft pump out of the 2016 operational budget.



CARRIED

FINANCIAL REPORT**Accounts Payable for Ratification
#104-2016**

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to approve the Accounts Payable ratification in the amount of \$73,178.94.

CARRIED

Financial Statement, February 2016

Council discussed Mandatory new home warranty issues, 8 residential lots sales since fall 2015, over 200 lot sales since 2006. Industrial subdivision has grown significantly since 2012 (20 lots sold and developed) which means increase in jobs as well. It is ok to have an inventory of extra lots. There is no debt to carry on the subdivisions and profits have been realized by the Village. CAO projects a healthy surplus from 2015 to be confirmed by auditor April 19.

#105-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley to receive the financial statement for February 2016, showing a balance of \$2,880,099.18.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS**Outlook Acres, Garbage Pits & Burning**

Recent problem with a resident in Outlook Acres who was burning garbage in a pit directly across from the entrance to Nobleford.

#106-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley that the CAO and Mayor write a letter to Lethbridge County Reeve, Council and Administration, regarding the Village of Nobleford concerns with the burning occurring in Outlook Acres, primarily the high risk it presents to the village and the breach of the issued fire permit and county bylaw.

CARRIED

Commissioner of Oaths Authorization

Renewal of CAO's authorization as commissioner of oaths is coming up; recommended is for assistant to take examination for certification as well.

#107-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to support the renewal of the CAO's Commissioner of Oaths Authorization and to have the Assistant to the CAO get the certification as well.

CARRIED

Relocation of Donation Bin from Canadian Diabetes Association

Donation bin currently located on King Street receives weekly complaints because the Canadian Diabetes Association is not consistent in collecting the items. A lot of donated items are left beside the bin because they don't fit in it. The person collecting it also often leaves unwanted stuff behind and it is an eyesore.

#108-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to inform the Canadian Diabetes Society that they need to be more diligent in collecting the items at the donation bin, and to ask them to relocate the bin to 12th Street west of the RV sewage dump site.

CARRIED

Case Backhoe Purchase

Purchase of a case backhoe was made for \$27,000 and is applicable to be funded by the 2016 MSI Grant.

#109-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to make application for funding from the 2016 MSI Grant for purchase of the case backhoe for \$27,000.

CARRIED

REPORTS**CAO written Report: CAO Report to Council for April 4, 2016**

1. Joint Council meeting, Fire and rescue service, Mar 30, 2016 at Picture Butte , Invited Mayor and CAO from each , Nobleford, Coaldale, Coalhurst, Picture Butte, Lethbridge County = 10 invites. Actual 13 attendees, were 2 from Nobleford, 2 Coalhurst, 2 PB, 0 Coaldale, 4 County, 3 Barons (County invited Barons). County responded to concerns as follows ; 1-NO County does not intend to have their own Fire Department. 2-NO, County does not sanction the recent news articles and acknowledges that improper statements were made by staff and future communication will be improved. Significant damage was caused by these news articles as our fire departments and public concerns were expressed. 3- County is satisfied with current service agreements but has significant concerns with Capital expenditures in the future and 7 fire trucks in 3 municipalities north of river. 2016 Operation agreements with Nobleford, Coalhurst and PB (each 20 volunteers) are around \$300,000 plus capital expenditures. Total County emergency services budget is 2.7 million dollars. 4- There were varied opinions on why or if we should support the County. 5-There were suggestions that we can all support County in lobbying on mutual issues. 5- County will proceed with their independent consultant study on regionalization and iso22399 risk analysis, and share report. Nobleford, Coalhurst and PB questioned what county sees regionalization as, and could not support increased bureaucracy imposed by the County . We currently see our Fire departments working very efficient, effective and in cooperation with other departments and there is no benefit to complicate the agreements or activity. We do not need or want County to manage our Emergency services fire and rescue

- departments, nor do we want to impose ourselves on the County. Communication between CAO to CAO is important.
2. CAO and DEM met with Alberta Emergency Management to discuss content of Table top exercise planned for Fall 2016 in Nobleford. We reviewed our analysis of risk / disaster scenarios based on the following priority components : Fire, south west wind, railway, school, excess to 519/23 roads, and identified that our focus in almost every situation should be on EVACUATION of NOBLEFORD
 3. WTP repairs will take place this year. How should we fund the costs. Option #1 is fund it from operations and likely result is increase in utility rate for 2017 option #2 is fund from reserves resulting in reduction in funds for matching grants for major capital replacement in future.
 4. There have been a number of issues related to garbage burning in outlook acres addressed by Nobleford Fire department, County bylaw officer, CAO involvement . One property has unsightly dump pit south and adjacent to Nobleford along #519 and burning pit stinks up Nobleford and is a significant risk to Nobleford. This property is identified in disaster response plan as a high unmanaged risk.
 5. CAO Hofman is a certified commissioner for oaths in Alberta, with 3 year renewal require in 2016. I request that Assistant to CAO take education and examination for commissioner for oaths in Alberta as well. Cost is \$50 each
 6. The diabetes collection bin on King street continues to be poorly maintained. Suggest we have it relocated to RV sewage disposal site area on 12 street.
 7. We have purchase Back hoe for \$27,000. Should I apply to MSI 2016 Capital Grant for funds.
 8. I am in discussions with AXIA regarding their offer to contribute to Nobleford Community, some concepts are Wi-Fi in our Centennial park, assistance in developing web base business for community, software and technical support program for less web savvy users....
 9. Quality of Internet services has been significantly reduces at Village sites (on off, week signal, slower) since Platinum Communications was bought out by Explorer net. Village receives free internet in exchange for tower space by Fire hall. I will be in discussions with explorer net on improving their service or they start paying us for tower space and we purchase internet from another source.
 10. Industrial property clean up by owners is progressing
 11. YPM Audit has had a slight interruption but will be presented April 19.

Mayor's Written Report:

- Mar 23/16. Community Futures. The Lethbridge office will set a personal best for dollar amount of loans this year.
- Mar 29/16. Waste Management. Review with DBS personnel regarding first 3 months of operation. Very positive.
- Mar 30/16. Joint council meeting re: emergency services. Well attended. Cleared the air somewhat and I hope set the groundwork for future joint sessions.
- Apr 1/16. Mayors & Reeves. Will give verbal report at Apr 5th meeting. VERBAL: Alberta Capital Finance authority made a presentation to the group. Mayor Spearman regarding seniors residence: if the province isn't going to pay their taxes then they will not allow any further seniors housing to be built. Next meeting is May 6 with presentation on coal generation. New mayor of granum, John Conner. Question was asked, what carbon tax would do to mill rate.

Councillors' Written Reports

- M.W. written report:** None
- P.P. written report:** None VERBAL: Lethbridge Waste Management - Chris Neilson, positive changes. Discussed support for Taber's material recycling facility and decision was made to not support it as it would impact Lethbridge's Waste Management. Question: is it legal to have only one door (exit) on a residence?
- D.V. written report:** None VERBAL: upcoming Southgrow meeting.
- D.H. written report:** No committee activity to report since last council meeting. will be attending FCSS all councils meeting April 6th

#110-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to receive the CAO, Mayor, and Councillors' reports.

CARRIED

INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

**FCSS Funding Summer Fun 2016
#111-2016**

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to receive as information the letter from FCSS stating that they will fund \$1500 for Summer Fun and to send a letter of appreciation, and include a welcome to the new director and invitation to attend a council meeting.

CARRIED

Meeting dates, Regular Council meeting are at 6:30 pm.

21 regular Council meetings in 2016, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

YPM audit presentation, possibly budget and 2016 TAX bylaw.

- Apr 19
- May 3
- May 17
- June 7
- June 21
- July 5
- Aug 16
- Sept 6 and Sept 20
- Oct 4 and Oct 18
- Nov 8 and Nov 22
- Dec 6

#112-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to accept the meeting dates.

CARRIED

In Camera. Land and Legal.

#113-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to go in camera at 9:12 pm.

CARRIED

Out of Camera

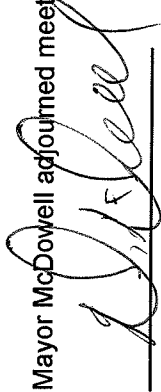
#114-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to go out of camera at 9:29 pm.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McDowell adjourned meeting at 9:30 pm



Mayor



Administrator

