

*Amended*

Minutes of Tuesday December 3, 2013 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NOBLEFORD IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, held in Council Chambers, at 906 Highway Avenue Nobleford, AT 7:00PM

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

Staff Kirk Hofman, Chief Administrative Officer, Karen Feenstra, Recording Secretary/Assistant to the CAO

Gallery No one present

Call to Order Mayor Don McDowell called meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Open floor to citizens

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**December 3, 2013 Agenda**

**#361-2013**

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to accept the agenda for the December 3, 2013 Regular Council meeting as presented.

CARRIED

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**November 5, 2013 Minutes**

**#362-2013**

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to approve the minutes of the November 5, 2013 Regular Council Meeting minutes.

CARRIED

**DELEGATIONS**

No Delegations

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**2014 Budget, Draft 1 of Operating Budget**

Mayor McDowell turned the floor over to CAO Hofman until 9:00 pm.

CAO stated that the draft one of 2014 operating budget as it stands would require an increase of 400% in total property tax. Over the next couple months, strategies will be presented that could increase revenues from sources other than taxation with the objective of a stable tax rate similar to 2012/2013.

The Capital budget will be discussed later as well, reference was made to the capital project of the industrial subdivision that currently sits with a 1. million cost with current sales revenues in 2012 and approved grant totaling 1.9 million and future sales estimated at \$380,000, this will yield a net profit to Nobleford of \$454,389. Minimum levies stated in Industrial LPA yielded approximately \$15,000 in 2013. Successful competitive Subdivision self-development is a significant factor in Noblefords success and takes as much administration work as regular municipal activities.

CAO briefed council on Budget process practices that have proved successful for Nobleford in the past years taking Noblefords pre 2004 position, of negative growth issues and assessment of 21 million, to current assessment of 112 million. Budgets pre 2004 topped at \$500,000, budgets post 2004 have been between 2 and 5 million. Services have been increased and improved, taxes and debt reduced. Emphasis was placed on long term planning, diligence, creativity, efficiency and initiative. Council objectives of 2013 and 2004/5 were reviewed. Nobleford has reduced dependence on taxation to fund operations and capital projects but external requisitions such as education, health, ORRSC, LRWMS, FCSS continue to increase. In 2013 a House valued at \$250,000 was taxed a total of \$775, with \$700 going to education, \$ 5 for senior housing and \$70 to the Municipality. Budget and tax Rate history chart was explained and referred to regularly. 2013 tax bylaw was reviewed. Noblefords business profile history was reviewed. Alberta financial indicators ratio of assets to liabilities was reviewed showing an existing ratio of 17.26 assets to 1 liability ratio, in 2006 the ratio was 2.3 to 1 and ratios in 1990's would have seen liabilities greater than assets. Budget, amortization, TCA and MYCIP were discussed. CAO presented the growth circle concept that requires internal activity to function but external inputs to grow. CAO closed with presenting steps needed for positive results.  
**VISION + SKILLS + INCENTIVES + RESOURCES + ACTION PLAN = CHANGE**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**APR**

**#363-2013**

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to approve the Accounts Payable Ratified in the amount of \$74,335.60.

CARRIED

**AP**

**#364-2013**

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley to approve the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$7,270.77

CARRIED

**NEW BUSINESS**

**George Cuff Videos**

**#365-2013**

MOVED BY, Councillor Wobick to receive George Cuff Videos for information.

CARRIED

**ORRSC Council Planning Orientation**

**#366-2013**

MOVED BY, Councillor Wobick to approve that all of Council and CAO and one staff attend the 2014 Council Planning Orientation on January 29 at 7:00 pm.

CARRIED

**CAO Report** – CAO Hofman reported that Assistant to CAO was in regular communication with him over the past month and that all issues have been dealt with appropriately. He complimented the assistant on a job well done.

#### **Assistant to the CAO Report**

Oct 31 – Regional Council Orientation Session – George Cuff

- I found this presentation very informative.

Nov 1 – EDA – Economic Development

- There was a lot of information to take in, but what the main point was that Council has to have a Strategic Plan. They have to have a purpose and set goals. They need a plan: vision, mission and strategies. Once this is done, give the CAO/Committees the proper tools to work on the plan.

AUMA

Nov 19 – Met with MPE for dinner.

Nov 20 – Met with Council for breakfast.

Committee Report – Infrastructure & Energy Committee Report

- Main Topic was Asset Management presented by Joel (City of Lethbridge) and Bernie (Hinton). Asset Management is a journey. You need to look at what is essential and desirable in your community. Asset management is based on what the cost will be to replace it in the future. Asset management and TCA need to work together.

CAO Session – Enabling Success presented by Nouman Ashraf

I really enjoyed this presentation. He got the group involved with the presentation. He talked about Comfort Zone (familiarity) and Safe Space (put out perspectives – get feedback, personalize our statements). 3 Ways to acquire wisdom: reflection, imitation, experience. 3 major findings in governance: structure, internal process and responsibilities. 3 types of governance: traditional, policy governance and results-based. Governance as leadership: fiduciary, strategic, generative.

Met council for lunch. Listened to keynote speaker Chris Hadfield. Talked about how do we inspire people? Went to the Trade Show and met with two Councilors from Town of Picture Butte.

In the evening went to a few Hospitality Suites: Stantech, Associated Engineers, FORTIS.

Nov 21 – Met with Council for breakfast.

Dialogue with Ministers: Doug Griffith, Ric McIver, Rick Fraser

Transportation and Gas Grant will apply to Municipal Affairs – 1 application for both

Premier's Address

Tradeshow Luncheon

Met with CAO from the Town of Coaldale

Went for supper with Council at Moxie's

City of Calgary Reception

Nov 22 – Met with Council for breakfast

Listened to the opposition party leaders, Doug Griffith, Mayor from Town of High River, Jason Kenney

#### **Mayors Report**

Mayor McDowell Report

-Nov 7th I represented the Village and laid a wreath at the Remembrance Day Ceremony at NCS.

-Nov 18th I attended a Waste Management meeting in Lethbridge. Joe Watson and Teresa Feist from Picture Butte, Henry Doeve(chair) and Tom White from County, myself(vice chair) and Les Wieland(manager) in attendance. Keith Davis gave a report on what other commissions are doing. I presented some suggestions for some alternate ways to handle some of the recyclable material.

-Tues, Nov 19th, AUMA here we come, snowstorm or not. Dinner with MPE.

-Nov 20th. 8:30-9:45. I attempted to decipher the presentation given by Shelley Miller, QC and Brian Hamblin on the different arms of the AUMA: AMSC, AMSCIS, MUNIX. We have the presentation if anyone is interested. We should challenge the cost of insuring the Community Center. Why does it cost so much?

-Nov 20th. 10:15-11:30. MGA. Guiding change. Don Lidstone, QC is sending me the presentation. I will defer to councillor Holinaty for this one.

-Nov 20th. Lunch. Chris Hadfield was inspirational. Set a goal on the edge of impossible.

Nov 20th. Afternoon. Resolution. Marguerite has them all listed in her report.

We spent the evening at various hospitality suites. Excellent.

-Wed, Nov 21st. Premier Redford address. Dialogue with the Ministers. 8:30-9:30. Dave Hancock(human services), Jeff Johnson(education), Wayne Drysdale(Infrastructure) and Frank Oberle(HS, persons with disabilities). A very informative group. Johnson said to take heart; the next announcement on schools will be the ones they are upgrading.

9:45-10:45. Doug Horner(treasury board & finance), Kyle Fawcett(recovery/reconstruction of southern Alberta) and Don Scott(accountability/transparency). No new money!

-Lunch. At the trade show.

-Nov 21st. 1:45-4pm. The future of Municipal Gov't. A glimpse at the review of the MGA.

-Nov 21st. Supper. VON group ate at Moxies.

-Nov 21st evening. City of Calgary reception. Networking opportunities.

-Nov 22nd. Opposition MP's had their turn. Election of president & directors. Doug Griffiths spoke. Very good. Jason Kenney, federal minister of employment, spoke. Very dry.

Good convention. Worth the time, effort and the money.

-Nov 27th. Community Futures meeting. Swearing in of newly elected officials.

**By Deputy Mayor Marguerite Wobick**

AUMA Convention 2013 – Calgary Convention Centre – Nov. 20, 21, 22.

Arrived late afternoon on Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> after a blinding snowstorm around Nanton. Dinner at the Calgary Tower with MPE Doug & Gordon and 2 Vauxhall councillors.

Wed. Nov. 20 - Breakfast, then Committee Reports. – I chose Women in Municipal - Slow start getting statistics of need for more women in government. (I think we vote for the best choice, not on gender). Some advice – be direct, not bullied, never over react, don't be one of the boys, go with your gut, be a role model, be a risk taker, work twice as hard.

Second Committee Report – Maximizing Ec. Dev. Activity in Small Communities – Continue to lobby for STEP, funding for infrastructure & transportation (right to know dangerous goods routes), possible voluntary amalgamation, MSI concerns, webinars on regional collaboration grants, are we blockers or enablers, perceptions (what do we think of ourselves), attract, retain & sustain local businesses.

Lunch – Keynote Address by Chris Hadfield with the message on how to inspire people by giving them something that is bigger than themselves to draw inspiration. Excellent!!

Afternoon on Resolutions – A1 Municipal Water Policy on Wetlands – passed; A2 Energy Efficiencies and Canadian Energy Strategy – passed; A3 Improvements to Viability Review Process & New Process for Voluntary Amalgamations – passed; B1 – Creation of a Provincial Wellness Foundation – defeated; B2 – Prov. Income Tax Transfer Payment – defeated; B3 – School Sited for Communities Future – passed; B4 – Enhanced Funding for School Resource Officers – defeated; B5 – Reverse MSI to Regional Collaboration – approved; B6 – Equal Sharing of Contrib to Pension Fund – passed; B7 – Combative Sports Commission – passed; B8 – Reporting Threshold for Non-Injury Collision – passed; B9 – Prov. Recycling Programs – passed; B10 – Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Power Generation – passed; B11 – Automatic External Defibrillator – defeated (after 2 amendments); B12 – Business Revitalization Zone Reg. – passed; Evening spent networking at hospitality suites.

Thurs. Nov. 21 – Breakfast – we were joined by Sonny, a councillor from Two Hills who was very interesting re Mexican Mennonites, etc. and introduced us to Min. of Ed. As they built a \$17 M school for the MM and have partly empty local schools. He also owned the Newspaper and was very informed about all the former and present Provincial government people. Also MLA Kent Hehr spent much time with the Nobleford Council. Government Day – Premier Redford address. Dialogue with Ministers 8:30-9:30 Heather Klimchuck – Culture, Richard Starke – Tourism, Parks, Rec., George Vandenburg – Assoc. Health (Seniors), Dave Rodney – Assoc. Health (Wellness). 9:45-10:45 – Thomas Lukazuk – Dep. Premier, Enterprise & Adv. Ed., Cal Dallas – International & Intergovernmental Relations, & Fred Horne – Health. Very interesting on how all government departments promise to work together and hearing Mayor Spearman (and others) work for answers from Home on the 911 system.

Lunch at the Trade Show – then Education Sessions – I went to Create, Attract & Maintain a Strong and Thriving Business Community with Dale Barr. Implement – do something! CAEP – Economic Partnership. 1. A process for handling inquiries, 2. Move to hot leads, 3. Have prepared staff, (Ec. Dev. Officer at front desk). 4. Guidelines, 5. Time, 6. Client tracking system. \*Engage CAO – tell how we want to do business – networking with business leaders – Council is the connection. – Do something!! Respond to inquiries within 24 hours. Good communication, website, return messages promptly, opportunity – be creative, partner with people, reactors, businesses, REDA, Chamber of Commerce, Prov. Grants, Open door policy to CAO., have prepared response, Community profile, success stories, recent investments, land maps, sales pitch, emphasis on strength.

Second Education Session – Advancing Sustainability in Your Community – Poon Leung from Natural Step Org. explains the Framework for Strategic Sustainable Dev. – did not find this session practical. Time with Milk River new councillors (female) sharing general info on council responsibility, etc. or I would have left. Dinner with VON Council at Moxies in Sandman (where we stayed) and then on to the City of Calgary reception at City Hall. Tour of old and new city hall and networking with Picture Butte, etc.

Fri. Nov. 22 – Heard from opposition Brian Mason, NDP, Raj Sherman, Liberal, and Danielle Smith, Wildrose. Had election of President Helen Rice & Directors. Finished resolutions and heard Doug Griffiths, Minister of Municipal Affairs, & Jason Kenney, Federal Minister of Employment, etc. who was in Calgary to open 25 km of ring road in SW Calgary. Then closing ceremonies, box lunch & head home.

General Comments – This convention was most certainly worthwhile in getting to know VON councillors and networking with other mayors and councillors from other towns and villages, sharing common concerns like what works and what doesn't, being a new councillor, attracting business, etc. Also being re-elected with 3 years of experience, I was much more confident in networking and understanding more of the involvement of local government. I would have liked to hear more of the Ministers, but we shared who would go where.

**REPORT BY COUNCILLOR VINCENT**

AUMA CONFERENCE 20-22 NOV 2013 CALGARY  
I FOUND IT VERY INFORMATIVE AND EDUCATIONAL, SOME OF THE CONFERENCES I ATTENDED WERE SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENT.

DISCUSSED FLOODING IN HIGH RIVER AND AREA: HOW IS THE GOVERNMENT HELPING AND PROBLEMS THEY ARE HAVING WITH THE GOVERNMENT REGARDING RELIEF FOR HOMES OUTSIDE THE FLOOD PLAINS, EVEN THOUGH OLD MAPS SHOW THAT THOSE AREAS WERE FLOODED, SECOND CONCERN MORE IMPORTANT THAT FLOODING IS DROUGHT, AS WE NOW HAVE A POPULATION, APPROXCHING 3.5 MILLION, WHAT WILL WE DO WHEN WE REACH IT? PAST HISTORY SHOWS THAT APPROXIMATELY EVERY 20 YEARS WE HAVE A FLOOD OR A DROUGHT.

SAFE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES  
ADVISED THAT THERE IS A ONE YEAR GRANT AVAILABLE IF POPULATION OVER 5,000 FOR POLICING. THIS GRANT IS MADE UP OF MONEY FROM COURT JUDGEMENTS, VICTIM OF CRIMES, VICTIM SERVICES AND PROCEEDS OF CRIME, THESE FINES GOES INTO THE GRANTS.

FIRST RESPONDER'S RADIO SYSTEM, REALLY PUSHING ONE SYSTEM FOR 911  
GROWTH OF COMMUNITIES: HOW DOES THE VILLAGE GAIN ACCESS TO INFORMATION THAT WILL ATTRACT NEW CLIENTS TO YOUR TOWN, MARKETING STRATEGIES USED BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE!  
ASKED ABOUT ASSISTING IN PURCHASING PHOTO RADAR, NOT AT PRESENT NOT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROVINCE IF YOU WANT YOU CAN SHARE WITH ANOTHER COMMUNITY BUT COMMUNITIES ARE



RESPONSIBLE FOR OWN PURCHASE.  
WORKING ON A SYSTEM SO THAT PUBLIC HAVE ACCESS TO EVERYTHING FROM SCHOOL MARKS TO HEALTH. CONCERN IS REGARDING PRIVACY ISSUES.  
REGARDING ENERGY COST WE ARE WITHIN THE MIDDLE FOR COSTS OF TRANSMISSION FOR CANADA. 8% IS GENERATED BY WIND 40% IS BY COAL AND THE REST IS GAS AND ALTERNATIVE SOURCES.  
MOVEMENT OF OIL BY TRAIN, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY, ALBERTA GOVERNMENT IS LOOKING AT GOVERNANCE AND POLICY. WILL MAKE CHANGES IF NECESSARY.  
ALBERTA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION  
STAKEHOLDERS ANYONE SUPPLYING SERVICE. GOVERNMENT FEELS THAT ONE SIZE FITS ALL FOR 911 CALLS. ONE DISPATCH SYSTEM. THEY KNOW IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY. LONGTIME PROBLEM WITH NO FURTHER COMMUNICATION. AND GOVERNMENT NOW SAYS THIS IS HOW IT IS GOING TO BE  
6 AREAS OF CONCERN 1 IS DISPATCHING, 2 MEDICAL, 3 PROTOCOLS, 4 TRAINING SKILLS, 5 ON LINE PROTOCOLS FOR QUALITY INSURANCE, 6 PATIENT CARE AND DISPATCHER'S ROLE NEED MORE CONSULTATION WITH SHARE HOLDERS BEFORE IMPLEMENTING PROGRAM.  
BALANCING MUNICIPAL BOOKS  
CHALLENGE OF AFFORDABILITY. WHO'S PAYING AND FOR HOW LONG  
BUDGETING FOR NEW PROJECTS. PAY NOW FUTURE GENERATIONS HAVE IT FOR FREE. PRESENT HARDSHIP OR SPREAD OVER TIME EVERYONE PAYS. AS DEBT GOES DOWN STAY AT SAME PAYMENT BUILD RESERVE FOR REPLACEMENT OR NEW PROJECTS. WILLING TO SHOW COMMUNITIES THE VALUE OF THE SERVICES OFFERED AND HOW LONG IT WILL LAST. HOW DO WE TREAT OUR GRANTS? WHERE DOES IT SHOW IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS? I TALKED TO A COUNCILLOR FROM DONALDA, WATER IS 3.10 PER CUBIC METER, WANTS TO RAISE ANOTHER 10 CENTS, 50,000 DEFICIT AND THEY NEED A NEW WATER SYSTEM. I WOULD SAY WE ARE IN PRETTY GOOD SHAPE.  
FOUND THAT MOST OF THE MINISTERS DIDN'T REALLY PROMISE ANYTHING, EITHER UNDER REVIEW OR FURTHER ASSESSMENT IS REQUIRED BEFORE THEY WILL MAKE POLICY.

**Report By Councillor Don Holinaty**

Councillors report on the AUMA convention.  
November 19<sup>th</sup> – MPE supper. Excellent meal hosted By MPE. had an opportunity to meet with 2 of the Vauxhall councillors.  
November 20<sup>th</sup> – attended 2 sessions in the am.  
Infrastructure and Energy – excellent presentation mainly focussed on infrastructure and asset management. Bernie Kreiner from Hinton had a very good presentation on what Hinton has done to start the process and the issues they have had to overcome. Very informative.  
Municipal Government – good presentation from Doug Lidstone. He discussed revenue sources for municipalities and the plusses and pitfalls each present.  
Afternoon session – opening ceremonies and AGM. Voted on resolutions. Very good speech by keynote speaker Chris Hatfield.  
November 21 –  
Attended the Trade show , Municipal Affairs reception and the Associated Engineering reception.  
In the AM - Municipal Excellence Awards and Ministers dialogue. Doug Griffiths, Rick McIver and Rick Fraser. Premiers address at 11am.  
Attended 2 sessions in the afternoon.  
Balancing the Municipal books- thought this might be a rather dry topic but it turned out to be the best presentation I saw. Oscar did a great job making this informative and thought provoking. How are we set for planning and financing for the future of our municipality?  
Advancing sustainability in your community. – tuned out to be a bust. Left the session early as it was going nowhere. Must have been an opinion shared by many as many people left.  
Attended the City of Calgary Reception – Very nice reception and was well attended.  
November 22 -  
Speeches by opposition parties and elections for AUMA. Balance of resolutions voted on. Speech by Doug Griffiths and Federal Minister Jason Kenney .

Overall I thoroughly enjoyed attending this event and see where it is very useful for making contacts and forming relationships.

**In January 2014, each Councillor will be provided with business cards and name tags.**

**Reports**

**#367-2013**    MOVED BY, Councillor Pelley to accept the CAO, Mayor and Councillor Reports.    CARRIED

**INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDANCE**

**Emails Circulated**

**MEETING DATES**

December 17	Christmas Dinner, Luigis South, 6:00 pm
January 2014	Audit Committee Meeting, Day Time
January 7, 2014	Regular Council Meeting
January 13, 2014	Emergency Management Training – Vulcan 1 pm – 4 pm – PP and KF
January 21, 2014	Regular Council Meeting

**Emergency Management Training**

**#368-2013**  
MOVED BY, Councillor Wobick to approve attendance of Councillor Pelley ( DEM) and CAO Assistant Karen Feenstra (D DEM) to attend Emergency Management Training in Vulcan on January 13, 2014.

CARRIED



**Meeting Dates**

#369-2013

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to accept the meeting dates as presented.

CARRIED

In Camera 9:49 pm;  
#370-2013

CAO Pay, Tabled Motions #190-2013;  
MOVED BY Councillor Pelley to go In Camera.

CARRIED

CAO Assistant/Recording Secretary left Council Chambers.  
CAO was asked to leave Council Chambers and did.

Out Camera 10:35 pm  
#371-2013

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to go out of camera.

CARRIED

CAO Pay  
#372-2013

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley that Mayor meet with CAO regarding 2013 bonus  
consideration.

CARRIED

\$1500 staff gift  
#373-2013

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley that the CAO is approved to spend an additional  
\$1500 on staff gift at his discretion.

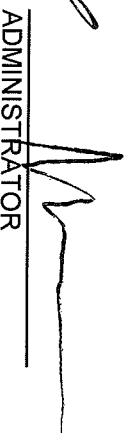
CARRIED

**ADJOURNMENT**

10:37 p.m.

Mayor McDowell moves the meeting to be adjourned.

  
MAYOR

  
ADMINISTRATOR

