

Minutes: FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NOBLEFORD HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 906 HIGHWAY AVENUE, NOBLEFORD on January 5, 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

Gallery None

Call to Order Mayor McDowell called meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Open floor to citizens, no one in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA
January 5, 2016 Agenda
#1-2016**

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to accept the agenda for the January 5, 2016 regular council meeting.

CARRIED

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES
December 15, 2015 Minutes
#2-2016**

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2015 regular Council Meeting.

CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Lethbridge County

CAO met with Lethbridge County CAO. Mayor Hickey met with Mayor McDowell. as feedlot operation legislation is in the works to address some of the existing issues. County to likely work something out with outstanding fire hall rent and MVC billing, as they recognized Nobleford is unique in its MVC attendance. Plans are in process for a lunch meeting with CAO, Mayor, and Reeve and Nobleford will not bill for MVCs for next 30 days. Objective is to have a good , fair working relationship to be productive.

#3-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to receive as information the update on communications with Lethbridge County regarding manure stock piling, outstanding fire hall rent, and MVC billing to Alberta Transportation.

CARRIED

FINANCIAL REPORT

Accounts Payable for Ratification

Insurance entry is showing as 2014 automobile insurance, CAO corrected this.

#4-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to approve the Accounts Payable ratification in the amount of \$73,086.16 with the insurance payment description changed to the current year.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Water Meter Policy #04-07

More meters need to be ordered but the cost will be increasing so policy #04-07 needs revision for cost recovery.
#5-2016

MOVED BY Councilor Wobick to approve revision of Policy #04-07 to update the fee schedule.

POLICY #04-07

SUBJECT: Water meters
DEPARTMENT: Public Works
ADOPTED & APPROVED BY COUNCIL: Dec 20, 2005, Dec 21, 2016, Sept 1, 2011, Jan 5, 2016
RESOLUTION NO #522-2005, #424-2010, #302-201, #5-2016

PURPOSE: To establish guidelines for installation and responsibility of water meters.

1. It is a requirement of all property owners to have an operating water meter for their water supply.
2. It is the property owner's responsibility to install, the water meter on the main service water line and exterior reader on building. Property owners are to arrange with the Village office to purchase water meter and the Village will bill the property owner for the water meter at the Village cost.
4. For new installation or complete replacement, the Village of Nobleford will supply water meters, wiring and exterior remote reader on a cost recovery basis.
5. If a property owner's water meter is not functioning the Village staff will attempt to repair the meter at no cost to the property owner. However, if the Village incurs any cost to supply these replacement parts the property owner will be billed for these parts.
6. Any properties without operating water meters are subject to billing penalties of **\$175** for estimate readings, interest charges of 2% per month on outstanding account balance and potential discontinuation of water supply.
7. Any outstanding accounts with the Village under this policy may be placed on the property owners property taxes and subject to additional penalties relative to tax bylaws and other policies.
8. The property owner owns the water meter.
9. The exterior water meter reader, shall be mounted on the front or within 2 meters of the front of the building, and not behind any gate or obstructions, and mounted between 1 meter and 1.5 meters above the ground.

WATER METER SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION REPORT. January 5, 2016

DATE: _____ Work done by: _____ VON assistance: _____

NAME OF PROPERTY OWNER: _____

ADDRESS OF INSTALLATION: _____ Phone #: _____

WORK DONE: _____ complete installation for new service, **\$210.00**

_____ complete new installation of existing service. \$210.00

_____ complete replacement of existing service (rebuilt or used) up to \$100.00

_____ partial replacement of existing service, (detail) new, rebuilt or used, up to \$100.00

_____ repair of existing service, (detail) _____ up to \$50.00

January 5, 2016, _____ D. McQuinn, Mayor. _____ K. Chapman CAO

CARRIED

Water Meter Purchase #6-2016

MOVED BY Councilor Holinaty to approve the purchase of additional water meters for \$7,921.83.
CARRIED



YPM Engagement Approval

Letter received regarding audit process and responsibilities, which requires an invitation and approval from council. This is similar to the previous year.

#7-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley to approve the Mayor and CAO respond to the YPM Letter of Engagement.

CARRIED

REPORTS

CAO written Report: NO Written Report

Mayor's Written Report: None - Mayors & Reeves meeting coming up.

Councillors' Written Reports

- M.W. written report:** None - Executive meeting with Green Acres on Jan 5 regarding CEO contract.
- P.P. written report:** None - Suggest reminder to residents about bylaws regarding sidewalks.
- D.V. written report:** None
- D.H. written report:** None

#8-2016

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

CARRIED

INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE

MSI Phase 5 Subdivision Funding

#9-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to receive as information the letter stating the Village of Nobleford was approved for \$213,536 in Gas Tax Funding for P5 Centennial Subdivision.

CARRIED

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

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

- Jan. 19, 2016 6:30 pm, Regular Council Meeting*
- Feb. 2, 2016 6:30 pm, Regular Council Meeting*
- Feb. 16, 2016 6:30 pm, Regular Council Meeting*
- Mar 1 and Mar 15*
- April 5 and Apr 19*
- May 3 and May 17*
- June 7 and June 21*
- July 5*
- Aug 16*
- Sept 6 and Sept 20*
- Oct 4 and Oct 18*
- Nov 8 and Nov 22*
- Dec 6*

#10-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley to accept the meeting dates.

CARRIED

In Camera – 7:17 pm

#11-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to go in Camera to discuss industrial land. Mayor McDowell invited the CAO and recording secretary to stay in attendance.

CARRIED

Out of Camera – 7:40 pm

#12-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley to go out of Camera.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

7:56 pm – Palliser Regional Schools: Coleen, Don, Wayne, Robert, Kevin, & Pat

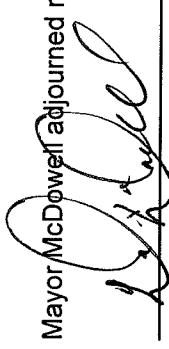
Permits are issued for modernization but contractor name not known yet. Palliser's rental of complex will be booked a discounted resident rate as proposed with Palliser providing Janitor. Focus discussion on growth of education in the future.

- Tender closes on the 12th, 8-9 interested contractors. Two phases to modernization. Permits are approved by Nobleford and building inspector, will be issued once contractor name is known.
- Decanting: Upstairs room schedule is not known yet but Palliser is considering the option. Planning to begin decanting in February. Palliser was offered the discounted resident rate but wondered if there is an option to get a further discounted rate because they provide their own janitorial service. VON will attempt to leave time before and after their requested time slots, without charging them.

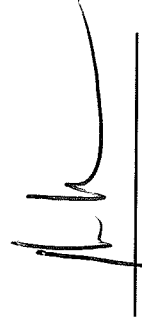
- Discussion regarding growth in Nobleford, as approximately 1/3 of the population is currently attending NCS. There are 300 potential student between 5 and 18 years of age living in Nobleford (federal census). CTS trailer a big appeal, even being used by Barons students. Palliser is trying to provide options like this for kids but has struggles around Low German Mennonite students, Alberta Distance Learning, and home schooling. Enrollment is declining compared to previous years, although most of the enrollment is in surrounding private schools as opposed to the city.
- Frustrations because provincial regulations provide for very little accountability regarding home schooling. Province has not been very open to the concerns of the school boards so far. Possibly get the communities on the same side to address these concerns and see if it could make an impact. Potentially recommend increased regulations to encourage less non-resident home school programs.
- What do we have to do to increase Low German Mennonite enrollment? Example, Low German class. Feeling is that if students start here, they are more inclined to stay here. Possibly a matter of trust, because they have felt threatened in the past. Recommend to develop a sense of trust so the Low German community feels they belong here. Same issue with other groups, that they feel their religion/beliefs would be threatened if they were in a public school. Low German Mennonite parents are seeing an increased importance in literacy so the culture is shifting.
- If all the kids currently home schooling in resident and nonresident programs, came back to school, there isn't enough space for them but that's not a concern for Nobleford as NCS is currently not at capacity.
- As the Village of Nobleford grows, would it be a good option to plan for growth of the education system, such as a permanent CTS facility. Community involvement is key in getting these kinds of programs up and running. Nobleford experience a 45% growth in population between 2006 and 2011 and another 20% since then. Median age is 28 years old, while provincial median is 26 years old. Nobleford is a young growing family oriented community.
- <http://nobleford.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Statistics-Canada-Nobleford-2011-census.pdf>
- Possible appeal to have increased Christian education available, integrating values as part of the education. Provincially, the option is there to have 30 minutes of Christian education but it's at the discretion of each community. Feeling is that Low German Mennonites don't want just religion, they want their religion. Help them know that they can keep their identity while becoming a part of a bigger community too.
- Discussion regarding focus on Low German Mennonites in Barons and potential to increase focus on other areas. Palliser feels they have to start the children somewhere to get them into education and then they eventually start to venture into other public schools. The key is that the parents don't prioritize education because their culture expects kids to work and earn money so the challenge is in increasing the importance of education. Average attendance at school council meeting in Barons is 60-70 parents; discussed possibly attend a meeting there.
- Public Relations, partnering with others to try and get more students here in Nobleford. Is there any progress that Nobleford can do with Palliser, work together to promote the education. Would help immensely to change the home schooling laws in Alberta, so if municipalities got on board and supported the school boards in this could possibly make changes. Look into meeting with some government officials. How to go about getting the best results? What can Nobleford do to help Palliser? Recommended advertising when houses are sold, get information to realtors etc.
- Political connections always helpful. Express concerns from a municipal angle, how the community is suffering because of non-resident home schooling, congregated sites, etc. No instants solutions but going to keep working on it. Nobleford desires to work with Palliser to promote the school and make the community better.
- Palliser to put something in newsletter, include updates on school modernization. Possibly work with Dan Doerksen to promote attendance with the Low German Mennonites (he does all the interpretation work for Palliser). Experience has been that they are appreciative when you make an attempt to meet them with their language.
- News story about a municipality and school board going in the same direction may be a good idea.
- Palliser reconfirmed that Don O'Dwyer from Suhari is primary contact on School construction project.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McDowell adjourned meeting at 9:58 pm



Mayor



Administrator