

Minutes; FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NOBLEFORD HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 906 HIGHWAY AVENUE, NOBLEFORD on July 5, 2016 at 6:30 pm

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

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

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

Gallery None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

July 5, 2016 Agenda #205-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to accept the agenda for the July 5, 2016 regular council meeting. CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 20, 2016 Minutes #206-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2016 regular Council Meeting. CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

7:00 pm – MLA David Schneider and Assistant Glenn Miller

- MLA Schneider had read minutes from the previous meeting and inquired after the sanitary trunk twinning. Mayor explained that the sewage system main line in Railway Avenue bottlenecks because of the growth in east Nobleford. CAO shared that a study was done 4 years ago regarding sewage and the capacity remaining to accommodate the growth happening. Identified was a \$3.5 million project but recognized was that the priority portion is going to cost about \$1 million. Capacity right now is for 2000 people so application was made for the priority portion.
- Carbon tax is considered a terrible piece of legislation. Schools, municipalities, charities, churches, are all not exempt (only farm fuel is exempt). Even fuel burned in the province (as in trucks driving through) will be taxed. Discussed was that there's been very little discussion as to what the money is going to be used for. Natural gas prices will almost double with this tax.
- MGA Review, there will be a meeting in Lethbridge on 15th that MLA Schneider will be attending. Cooperating initiatives between neighboring municipalities is priority. Nobleford has asked ORRSC to represent municipalities and address concerns with the MGA. Sharing of Provincial Revenues, would be nice to see a stable system but is not addressed at all so there are concerns that this could be cut. Education Property Tax collection an ongoing issue, mentioned was that municipalities do not receive anything back for administration of the tax. CAO mentioned that Nobleford wouldn't need to even use a tax assessment program if they didn't need to collect the Education Property Tax for the province. No changes to the existing linear tax, not been discussed in the house. CAO shared thoughts that it would be best thing to do for the province. Discussed who would be an expert regarding linear assessment. Seeing more municipalities without access to linear assessment.
- Offering training to councillors is now mandatory after elections. Discussed electing of officials.
- Municipal Affairs site, small communities fund available. Mentioned that if applied to Federal Funding, the provincial funding is less likely to be approved so decided to focus on provincial funding as the odds of receiving federal funds are slim. Village received 2016 capital funding for sanitary truck from provincial Water waste water program.
- Asked was if the education tax is an ongoing discussion in the government. Removal of education tax from property tax is always and issue. Threats are made that choice in education may disappear but also being said it's here to stay. Issues with homeschooling are being abused but promises have been made to keep funding it.
- New health minister is easy to talk to. Always ongoing issues with the health system, which receives a large portion of the funding.
- MLA Schneider felt Nobleford was doing a great job.
- Mr. Miller mentioned that a letter of support from the MLA is hugely beneficial for any non-profit organizations applying for grants. CAO will brief Mr. Miller on ongoing grants and work on getting letters of support for them. Mr. Miller mentioned a company named TechSoup Canada which has resources for non-profit organizations regarding technology, software, webinars, professional development, etc. Also mentioned was that the MLA can ask the minister for unused funds at the end of the fiscal year.



UNFINISHED BUSINESS**Municipal Government Act (MGA)**

Newest Analysis comes from ORRSC stating the impact of the MGA on municipalities and there would be quite a few changes needing to be made. Discussed was what "inclusionary housing" could mean in section 616. Regarding Appeal Board Establishment, Nobleford will most likely not need to make any major changes. Nobleford also already has an Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) and Municipal Development Plan (MDP) in place, and also is already publishing policies and bylaws on the web. Section 640 (4) regarding the Land Use Bylaw (LUB) could have an impact on Nobleford because of Stud Horse Lake. Nobleford is fortunate to have kept up with their land use bylaw and municipal development. No off-site levy bylaw here but Nobleford may need to establish one in the future. ORRSC seems to be ahead of the game with their analysis and the questions they pose. The new section stating an agreement can allow the Environmental Reserve not be required could pose a risk in the future but it is up to the municipality to decide whether they want to waive this or not. It seems that in general, the recommended amendments to the act are reasonable. Nobleford already meets the standards for the most part. Nobleford does not have an Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework (ICF) but already has some agreements in place and is sharing costs, etc. In regards to Emergency Services, it might be a good idea for Nobleford to do a draft ICF before Lethbridge County decides to draft one. The ICF should include various services including transportation, water and wastewater, solid waste, emergency services, recreation, and any other service where they benefit residents in more than one municipality so there will a lot to consider. Discussion over how in the past, working with other municipalities has been beneficial and good relationships have been built based on integrity. Informal relationships with municipalities other than Lethbridge County have been in place, which may now have to be made formal. Nothing stands out in the new MGA that should scare Nobleford's future but there will be some new things to learn. There is enough time to implement the changes and there will be education available. There seems to be no reason to oppose the MGA amendments but it is expected to see growing pains. Mentioned that ORRSC will also be going to July 15 hearing and copy of ORRSC analysis should be sent to AUMA the July 15th hearing regarding the MGA.

#207-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley to receive as information the Impact Analysis of the MGA Amendments from ORRSC and to maintain the position statement that the collaboration and mandatory Intermunicipal Development Plans (IDPs) are generally headed in a good direction, that the MGA was due to be updated, and these amendments address some of the weaknesses. CARRIED

Sanitary Twinning and North Railway Ave Project

Jody Petrone is the lead engineer from MPE on the sanitary twinning project and a site meeting was held on June 30th. The project plans are well under way with a hope to get tender here by late July. An upcoming site meeting will include Alberta Infrastructure in attendance, in an attempt to get funding before the project is complete. An agreement has been signed with MPE to pay them hourly and CAO updated the comments to state that the Village will have ownership of the records/documents/etc. with the understanding that MPE will be notified if they are used. CAO has asked for 2 tenders to be prepared; one for twinning and Railway Avenue road to be the same standard as 13th St and 14th St and also a second for the cost of paving. An agreement with Alberta Infrastructure also been signed.

#208-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to receive as information the agreement with MPE for the Sanitary Trunk Twinning and North Railway Avenue Project.

CARRIED

FINANCIAL REPORT**Accounts Payable for Ratification****#209-2016**

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to ratify Accounts Payable in the amount of \$22,376.31.

CARRIED

ATB MasterCard Statement**#210-2016**

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley to receive as information the ATB MasterCard statement for Feb. 17 to Mar. 16, 2016 showing a balance of \$1822.40

CARRIED

Federal Gas Tax Grant Received**#211-2016**

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to receive as information the receipt of the Federal Gas Tax grant in the amount of \$53,913.

CARRIED

COUNCIL reviewed the Budgetary control report and 2015 year end Audited Financial reserve accounts showing \$3,578,815 in reserves.

NEW BUSINESS

Water Treatment Plant SCAAD Computer Controls Update Project, \$30,000

Updates will need to be done on the water treatment plant's hardware and software systems. Large portion of the cost is for the knowledgeable person and to do the testing. CAO recommends doing this in next 12 months. Nobleford has the money but a decision would need to be made regarding where to fund it from. The option is there to share the cost with Lethbridge County and Barons, either through a rate increase or a one-time payment. CAO to meet with Zane and Ed regarding Alberta Environment's approval and their requirements within the next 2 years, as thoughts are that this will address 90% of their requirements. CAO talked to someone in Edmonton who makes the rules regarding water treatment and he was open to hearing a presentation regarding a solution to some of the challenges that are a part of the new requirements.

#212-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to approve expenditure of \$28,900 this calendar year for upgrades to the water treatment plant's SCAAD computer controls and that the CAO enter into discussions with Lethbridge County and the Village of Barons regarding capital funding and agreements and expected increase in rate charges for 2017.

CARRIED

Nobleford Investment Readiness Report

An assessment was done by SouthGrow consultant "RAINMAKER" to evaluate the investment readiness of municipalities and the report was very positive in respect of Nobleford..

#213-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley to receive as information the Investment Readiness Report Overview from Rainmaker Global Business Development.

CARRIED

REPORTS

CAO written Report: BMX track. Industrial Sub bylaw enforcement. Parking and dog bylaw tickets issued. AXIX HD TV, voip ooma phone and apple TV, Open house July 14 Calgary.MA annual report. Stud Horse Lake subdivision approved by County, Community watch group meet with RCMP July 21. **VERBAL:** Industrial property with overgrown grass will be cut this weekend and a plan is in place to get it cleaned up and the property fenced. Recently had 2 dog incidents. One fine was paid and the dog catcher will visit the dog and it will be placed on the restricted list. The other incident is ongoing but the fine will likely be reduced as it is dealt with. Village CAO or Councillors will not be attending the Neighbourhood Watch meeting but will allow use of the complex for free. A recent water line break in Rubie was fixed. Summer Fun has started this week average 25 users per day. The municipal secretary / assistant to CAO, will be on holidays from July 11 to 30th.

Mayor's Written Report: None, **VERBAL:** Community Futures had last meeting until September. Marvin Slingerland is new chair. Granum Parade was on July 1, well received. Had many people approach him, asking about Nobleford or expressing concerns with their own situation over concern with curb at Howe Rd and Barons St making it difficult for residents there to pull their trailers in to Howe Rd. A local improvement may be an option, CAO to investigate issue. Comments were made regarding Nobleford Heritage Society organization of Heritage day on July 30, 2016.

Councillors' Written Reports

M.W. written report: None, **VERBAL:** Expressed appreciation for Don McDowell and family, taking Nobleford Museum Blade float to various parades, Granum / Barons/ PictureButte.

P.P. written report: None, **VERBAL:** Waste Management meeting on July 11, will talk about PB commercial loads. Went to parade in Granum, Picture Butte to see Dory & The Weathermen

D.V. written report: None,

D.H. written report: None, **VERBAL:** Subdivision appeal board meeting in Coalhurst. Will be involved in FCSS director Zakk Morrison's 6 month evaluation in the near future.

#214-2016

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

CARRIED

Meeting Dates - Regular Council meetings are at 6:30 pm.

#215-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to accept the meeting dates.

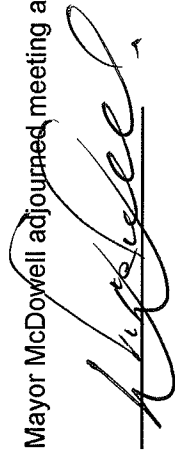
21 regular Council meetings in 2016, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

- Aug 16
- Sept 6
- Sept 20 - DV absent
- Oct 4
- Oct 18
- Nov 8
- Nov 22
- Dec 6

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McDowell adjourned meeting at 9:44 pm

CARRIED


Mayor


Administrator

Administrator