

Minutes: FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF NOBLEFORD HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 906 HIGHWAY AVENUE, NOBLEFORD on May 3, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Council Mayor Don McDowell, Councillor Don Holinaty, Councillor Marguerite Wobick, Councillor Don Vincent, Councillor Pete Pelley arrived at 6:36

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

Call to Order Mayor McDowell called meeting to order at 6:34 pm

Gallery None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

May 3, 2016 Agenda #131-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to accept the agenda for the May 3, 2016 regular council meeting with the addition of 4.2 - Fire Department, and 9.5 - 2016 SASG, Coaldale Invoice. CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 19, 2016 Minutes #132-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2016 regular Council Meeting. CARRIED

Joint Council Meeting Minutes, EMS, March 30, 2016 #133-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to approve the minutes of the March 30, 2016 Joint Council Meeting regarding Emergency Services. CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Lethbridge County Consultant Meeting with CAO

VON CAO talked to Tracy Anderson, the acting Lethbridge County CAO, and she suggested the county's emergency services consultant meet with CAO Hofman and then the findings be brought forward. CAO Hofman shared with CAO Anderson that Nobleford Council already has a position statement. The Acting CAO and consultant are considering dates between May 24th and 28th to come to Nobleford for a meeting.

#134-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to support the CAO meeting with the emergency services consultant from Lethbridge County and presenting the council's position statement. CARRIED

DELEGATIONS

ATCO Gas: Jeff Parkin (Manager), Shane Ellis (Senior Manager), and Brett Fraser (Supervisor)

- ATCO gas representatives shared they are here to talk about the franchise agreement with ATCO Gas. Changes to the template have been negotiated with AUMA so those will be highlighted and an opportunity given for questions.
- Shared was a document showing the projected revenue with the fee as it has been, as well as projected revenues if a franchise fee were implemented.
- Council was briefed on the process for renewal.
- The 2015 Franchise Information report was reviewed, showing details on what ATCO Gas has done throughout Alberta as well as specific information regarding ATCO's service to Nobleford (such as providing emergency service calls, inspecting their services, and doing maintenance/updates).
- The VON is serviced by the ATCO office in Picture Butte.
- A franchise agreement grants ATCO Gas the exclusive rights to provide natural gas distribution services to the community.
- Major changes made to the agreement include:
 - o Previous was 10 year term, now able to do 10 to 20 years so council has to choose a term.
 - o Upon expiration of the current agreement, the terms continue until an agreement with ATCO Gas is renewed or terminated.
 - o They have exclusive rights to use public property to deliver gas to customers in the municipality however they will work with the community to ensure plans are approved and do not conflict with the existing infrastructure.
- Franchise fee is a fee for exclusive use of the municipal right-of-ways for installation of ATCO Gas's distribution system. They are collected by ATCO from the residents in Nobleford, on behalf of the village.

- o Extra services can be requested by the village, the cost for which would be collected from the customers in the municipality.
- Linear Taxes can be a separate item or can be included in the franchise fee. These are collected from customers in Nobleford and returned back to the village.
- The agreement gives the VON the right to purchase ATCO Gas's distribution system upon expiry of the term, price to be negotiated.
- ATCO provides plans to emergency services showing locations and works with them.
- If ATCO Gas receives an offer to purchase, the VON has the first right of refusal and right to make the purchase instead at the same price as offered.
- When major work occurs, ATCO will provide a higher level of information than just regular work. What constitutes major work gets identified in the agreement.
- ATCO Gas will cover the cost of relocation when their infrastructure is in the way of the VON's infrastructure, provided notice is given (preferably a year). They will sometimes pay the cost to make adjustments to the VON infrastructure instead, if that is the cheaper option.
- ATCO guarantees to provide service to any customer within the boundary of the municipality as long as there is water and sewer out to the development.
- In the event of an annexation (increase of the municipal boundaries), ATCO automatically takes over service if the annexed land is less than 640 acres or 25% of the current size. For larger annexations, the VON has the option to either add the land to the current agreement or choose a different provider.
- The agreement provides ATCO the ability to use the right-of-ways but the municipality is allowed to use them as long as it doesn't interfere with ATCO's use.
- There are 3 things that need to be decided:
 - o Length of Term
 - o Franchise Fee
 - o Definition of Major Work.

QUESTIONS: As the VON is looking at disaster management response plan primarily focusing on evacuation, asked was if there a valve that shuts off all of Nobleford. Discussed was if the VON could have access to this valve in event of an evacuation. ATCO shared that they prefer to be the ones to turn the gas off but it does happen that this isn't realistic and they are open to giving access in this type of situation.

- CAO to coordinate with Jeff, regarding access for emergency response team to the shut off valve with the understanding that someone needing to use the key should attempt to coordinate with ATCO to verify that this is the proper step.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (cont.)

Billing for Motor Vehicle Collisions for 100%-Owned Village Vehicles

County recognizes that something could possibly be done regarding the billings for MVC attendance. Lethbridge County bills AB trans for vehicle attendance dispatched from Nobleford and retains all the money. VON is the sole owner and pays all the bills for 2 units R-101 and C-105 and thoughts are that VON should get fully paid for use of those 2 units, whether the VON bills Lethbridge County or Alberta Transportation. The other vehicles are shared in ownership and operating costs (70/30%) with the County. Thoughts are that now would be an appropriate time to send a letter to the County requesting fair payment for R-101 and C-105 at Provincial rates effective January 1, 2016 as the County requesting for these amendments without reopening the entire agreement.

#135-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to send a letter to Lethbridge County stating the position that the Village of Nobleford requests to receive 100% of the income from Alberta Transportation for Nobleford attendance to motor vehicle collisions by the 2 units R-101 and C-105 that are solely owned by the Village.

CARRIED

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statement, March 2016

#136-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to receive as information the financial statement for March 2016, showing a balance of \$2,812,160.52

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

ATCO Franchise Agreement, Term and Fee

#137-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to renew the ATCO Franchise Agreement on a 10 year term.

CARRIED

Franchise Fee with ATCO Gas

#138-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to maintain a 0% franchise fee with ATCO Gas.

CARRIED

Nobleford Community Complex Occupancy Agreement

Previous agreement has expired, was amended to simplify and condense it to a one page document.

NOBLEFORD COMMUNITY COMPLEX.

This Agreement made this _ day of _____ in the year _____ between _____

THE VILLAGE OF NOBLEFORD (hereinafter referred to as 'the Village') of the first part

and

THE NOBLEFORD COMMUNITY COMPLEX SOCIETY (hereinafter referred to as 'NCCS') of the second part

WHEREAS there are certain facilities owned by the Village within its corporate boundaries which are used for cultural and recreational activities by Village and area individuals and groups, and

WHEREAS the above parties are desirous of entering into an agreement for fundraising, event hosting and general use of the said facilities, namely the NOBLEFORD COMMUNITY COMPLEX. (NCCS) It is the intent that both parties partner to provide quality programs, activities and facilities without burdening the Nobleford property tax payer and, the NCCS may enter into a agreement to operate the facility at arms length from the Village on a minimum of 100% cost recovery basis. The Society shall act as ambassadors for the facility.

NOW THEREFORE THIS AGREEMENT WITNESSES and the parties hereto agree one with the other as follows:

- 1) The Village will grant the NCCS use of the facility at no fee for all their events and activities.
- 2) NCCS co-op activities: If the majority of the NCCS complex event or activity revenues, (51%), hosted by NCCS partnering associates, goes toward the Village of Nobleford Complex projects or expenses, that have been approved by Council, no fee will be charged. Revenues will be paid to the Village.
- 3) Any improvements done or paid for by the society will be property of the Village unless otherwise agreed to by Village Council in writing and noted in the annual statements and audit.
- 4) The Village will be responsible for all operating costs related to the building property.
- 5) The NCCS shall apply for operating grants and capital grants and fundraise for the Community Complex.
- 6) The NCCS shall recognize all the Village policies related to the Complex as valid.
- 7) The parties hereto shall not have the power to pledge the credit of the other beyond expenditures approved by this agreement.
- 8) The NCCS shall present the Village with an annual written financial statement and activity/membership report. This report shall be reviewed at a regular scheduled Village Council meeting.
- 9) This agreement shall continue in force until either party give written notice of at least 1 day.
- 10) In the event of dissolution of the NOBLEFORD COMMUNITY COMPLEX SOCIETY notice shall be given to the Village .

On this _____ day of _____ in the Year _____ IN WITNESS THEREOF the parties hereto have executed this agreement by the signature of their authorized officers.

THE NOBLEFORD COMMUNITY COMPLEX SOCIETY; _____ President
Secretary _____

VILLAGE OF NOBLEFORD; Mayor McDowell _____ CAO Hofman _____

#139-2016

MOVED BY Councilor Vincent to approve the drafted Nobleford Community Complex Occupancy Agreement, to be signed subject to the approval of the Nobleford Community Complex Society. CARRIED

Nobleford Trade Center at Council Chambers

-Nobleford businesses are too busy to organize for a chamber of commerce. Business lunches in the past at the school have been very successful though. The industrial land owners share that they are happy that Nobleford doesn't interfere with their business. CAO shared his thoughts on how to connect Nobleford with the world, in a good way. With fiberoptic in Nobleford now, we have opportunities to explore. Most people utilize the download speed but with the new upload speed of 25 mbps, the option is there to present yourself to the world. It would be good to somehow help the businesses here. Axia is offering to set up a technology demonstration site at the Village Council Chambers and the new idea is that it be based around the concept of the Nobleford Trade Center, if council supports it. Axia is willing to make this the most technological-based municipal office, contributing equipment and technical support. The VON will subscribe to the 25 mbps plan at \$100 per month and through utilization for phone and fax, the plan is to say goodbye to Telus costing \$90 per line. A concept has been discussed to implement Fibre Friends, a program where the school kids learn and then in turn help teach others how to better utilize the internet (online banking, sell currencies in a safe manner etc.). A use paypal, build websites, market products to the world, trade currencies in a safe manner etc.). A designated time would be set up for the public to use the Council Chambers for this. The goal is to make the village office a place for the community, where they feel welcome, offering free wifi, more picnic tables, outside office etc. Axia is working with a partner on putting surveillance in so the place can be monitored. One benefit of this is how it would allow parents to see if their kids are here. With the live streaming of video feeds, the option would be there to view who is coming and going in Nobleford. This surveillance includes a security component. In return for their involvement, AXIA would want the VON to be the model municipality. Axia to make a presentation at ORRSC in June and VON would be expected to show Nobleford to whoever wants to see what's going on. There may also be an option for a AXIA scholarship fund, with a designated purpose that would benefit community and economic growth.

-Mayor McDowell thinks the school link is key and will, in the long run, prove to get Axia the biggest return. Kids leave Nobleford for business opportunities but with connectivity, they might not have to leave and instead have a step up to help them into the position they want to be in. -Mayor asked Councilors what they thought: Councillor Holinaty shared he liked the idea of support from Axia and learning a bit about internet, especially to use it for teaching at the school. Councillor Wobick thought the education assistance would be appreciated. Councillor Vincent thought this is very good use of the new Fiber optic services.

#140-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to support the idea of developing the Nobleford Trade Center at council chambers, through the village's work with Axia.

CARRIED

Tesla Charging Station

Tesla is selecting a few places to set up a complementary charging station. Village would have to pay for the electricity used, not sure of the costs this would incur so the CAO has applied to Tesla on line and will share additional information as it comes in.

#141-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to support the CAO pursuing installation of a Tesla charging station here in Nobleford.

CARRIED

DELEGATIONS (cont.)

Fire Department Chief, Ryan Wagner – 7:30 pm

- Interest has previously been expressed in contributing towards the fire department having a livestock trailer. Recently, Chief Wagner received call from a 4H club that wants to donate money for this directly, in June. They would pass this money on to someone else if this idea didn't come to fruition. The plan would be to obtain and maintain this livestock trailer without capital or operational cost to the village.
 - Practically, the village has no use for a trailer like this as incidents needing it wouldn't happen within the village but rather in the county. The county has expressed concerns over additional capital costs so this should be done apart from the existing agreement. The current idea is for the equipment be donated to the Nobleford Fire Fighters Society, so there is no involvement for the Nobleford and District Emergency Services department of the village. If the village or a neighboring community needs it, the fire chief could potentially make a request for use from the society. The option could be there for the society to charge a fee for this so this could potentially provide a stream for future revenue for the Fire Fighter's Society, down the road.
 - Chief Wagner feels that they will be called to these types of scenes in the County and that having access to these tools would be hugely beneficial. The trailer could be stored at member's houses, farm yard, or possibly at the Nobleford or other fire hall if there's room pending Council approval (outdoor parking pad). Optimally, it would be good to have it near the fire hall to avoid delays. In 13 years, Ryan has attended 5 calls with 2 in 2015 where this equipment would have been beneficial. It would especially be key in helping ensure the safety of the fire fighters.
 - Society can register the trailer however the insurance is carried on the vehicle that would tow it. So there would be a liability to the insurance carrier of the truck.
 - Pointed out was to communicate this with the county, to keep them informed.
 - Cost is estimated to be about \$20,000.

**Trailer
#142-2016**

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to support the Nobleford Fire Fighter's Society project to acquire a trailer set-up with corralling at no capital, operating or ownership cost to the village. The CAO will bring this issue to the attention of Lethbridge County.

CARRIED

Extraction Equipment for Fire Department

The county was approached in December regarding buying battery-operated extraction equipment to replace the current hydraulic set (as per the agreement). Lethbridge County did not immediately support the purchase, and now the cost exceeds the agreed upon amount for replacement of these tools. The option is being considered to only purchase the battery-operated cutter and spreader and not purchase the ram at this time, as the ram is used less and this would keep the cost within the budgeted amount. With the change in the USD, it might cost less now anyways so a recalculation should be done because the money saved on the breathing equipment may easily cover the additional cost of the battery-operated extraction equipment over the hydraulic replacements.

In consideration of the Fire and Rescue Services agreement between Nobleford and Lethbridge County in specifically schedule "D" identifying replacement of extrication equipment at an estimated cost of \$36,400 and SCBA at a cost of \$72,800. Lethbridge County contribution would total \$63,700 in 2016.

In November 2015 the Village agreed to purchase new oxygen packs and battery powered extrication equipment pending Lethbridge County approval. Lethbridge County agreed to the SCBA oxygen packs purchased and they have since been bought, delivered and in operation. As for the battery powered extrication equipment, we were informed that Lethbridge County was not prepared to proceed with purchase at a cost of **\$47,469**. Although this equipment has never been used in Nobleford, the Village agreed to contribute \$9,100 (25%) to the equipment purchase cost.

We have received new pricing (good for 15 days until May 18, 2016) on the specified battery operated extrication equipment **totaling \$44,000** for E-Force 2.0 245-SL spreader \$15,030, C236 Cutter \$15,760, 21" to 36" Ram \$11,964 and Battery pack at \$1000. The County share would be **\$34,900**.

Considering that the County contribution to the SCBA was \$5260 under budget and the over budget expenditure on the extrication equipment would be \$7,600, the net impact to the County contribution would require an additional **\$2340**.

Nobleford encourages the Lethbridge County to approve the additional fund to help realize the purchase of this extrication equipment before May 18, 2016. The County contribution would be **\$34,900**.

#143-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to support sending Lethbridge County a letter with a recalculation of the cost of the extraction equipment for the Nobleford Fire Department, requesting their support in funding.

CARRIED

- Chief Wagner mentioned that they surveyed the area at the CPR crossing west of Nobleford regarding a controlled burn. His opinion is that it would be extremely high risk. The rough terrain would make for a high risk of injury and there is more fuel than visible at first glance. The amount of smoke and ash that would come from a fire there would be dangerous as well as uncomfortable to the villagers.
- The fire department currently has a crew of approximately 20 members. There is room for growth so Chief Wagner shared his plans to promote recruitment. Discussed was that they do have the means to remove someone from the crew if they are not an appropriate fit.

Neighborhood Watch

Citizen interest has been expressed in establishing a Neighborhood Watch program / citizens on Patrol. Mentioned was that they work best when under authority. A group is discussing this and pending council's approval, the group will meet with the RCMP in cooperation with CAO. Also mentioned was that a Lethbridge police officer and Correctional Guard who lives in Nobleford has said they would assist with these programs if the interest is there.

#144-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to support the community members pursuing establishment of a Neighborhood Watch / Citizens on Patrol program.

CARRIED

REPORTS

CAO written Report: SIR report filed, Cell phone booster stations at Community Complex and WTP.

Cancel telus @ \$90 per line. **VERBAL:** Park water was turned on already because of the warm forecast, pumping out of the canal (earlier than usual) but utilizing it while we can, as the water is unusually clear for this time of year and could get muddy soon.

Councillor Pelley asked about natural gas conversion of generator. CAO is still looking into a natural gas conversion of out WTP diesel generator and has had engineer, manufacturer and operator opinions; it doesn't appear to be worth pursuing at this time because a natural gas generator is less powerful than a diesel so you have to compensate elsewhere.

Mayor's Written Report: April 25/16. Participated in an electronic approval of the audited financial statement for Waste Management.

Apr 27/16. Community Futures. A look at the year in review. Goals and objectives.

VERBAL: anyone interested in taking the float to Monarch this weekend – none available. Granum has also sent an invitation for participation in the parade. He will forward these invitations to the Heritage and Museum societies.

Councillors' Written Reports

M.W. written report: None – **VERBAL:** Visited the 6th grade class and they followed up with a few questions. Mentioned at Centennial Society meeting that Nobleford is not involved in the Chinook Arch library system and there are some people that feel that the village should have membership. –Chinook Arch cost would be around \$10,000 per year plus each person would have to buy Library cards. Nobleford does not have a Library and there has been very little to no interest in volunteers organizing to library board. Council has reviewed this issues annually and is confident that membership is not prudent until a Library is physically realized in Nobleford.

P.P. written report: None – **VERBAL:** Had online vote for Lethbridge Waste Management, noticed Nobleford had a higher % increase from 2014-2015 than other municipalities so he will look into this. Also discussed with Craig putting up additional signs at the Waste Transfer Site in different languages but this was not supported.

D.V. written report: MLA invite to Council on July 5, Southgrow, attached report. – **VERBAL:** Consider issues that would like to be discussed if MLA visits.

D.H. written report: Will be attending a development appeal meeting in Coaldale, April 28. No other committee activity since last council meeting.

#145-2016

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

CARRIED

INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**Southern Alberta Utility Rate Survey**

Nobleford ranked very well in this report.

#146-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Vincent to receive as information the 2016 Southern Alberta Utility Rate Survey.

CARRIED

STEP Letter

Nobleford received approval for 2 step employee grants and Parks and Rec Society's application for STEP was denied.

#147-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to receive as information the April 4, 2016 letter approving the Village of Nobleford for STEP funding in the amount of \$4,162.49.

CARRIED

Municipal Affairs Letter, Safety Code Audit

#148-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to receive as information the March 29, 2016 letter from Municipal Affairs stating no concerns found on the Safety Codes Council 2015 audit.

CARRIED

AB Government Letter, Deputy Premier, RPAP

#149-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to receive as information the March 31, 2016 letter from Alberta Deputy Premier regarding continuation of the Rural Physician Action Plan (RPAP).

CARRIED

2016 SASG, Coaldale Invoice

Coaldale agreed to take care of the registrations for participation in the Southern Alberta Summer Games and has calculated Nobleford's share to be \$320.

#150-2016

MOVED BY Councillor Wobick to receive as information the letter from Coaldale regarding the Southern Alberta Summer Games (SASG) and to send them the \$320 they've requested.

CARRIED

**Meeting dates, Regular Council meeting are at 6:30 pm.
#151-2016**

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to accept the meeting dates.

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

- May 17
- June 7
- June 20, **Monday**
- July 5
- Aug 16
- Sept 6
- Sept 20 – DV absent
- Oct 4
- Oct 18
- Nov 8
- Nov 22
- Dec 6

CARRIED

**In Camera, CAO Annual Review – 8:55 pm
#152-2016**

MOVED BY Councillor Holinaty to go in camera at 8:55 pm.

CARRIED

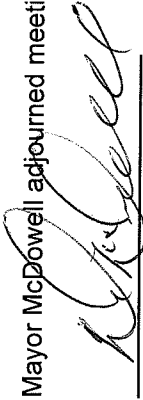
**Out of Camera – 9:07 pm
#153-2016**

MOVED BY Councillor Pelley to go out of camera at 9:07 pm.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McDowell adjourned meeting at 9:08 pm



Mayor



Administrator