

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE OF CHIPMAN
February 7, 2005**

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular council meeting for the month of February was called to order by Mayor Jim Palmer at 8:00 p.m. Mayor Palmer chaired the meeting.

Due to cancellation of the January regular meeting and the absence of Councillor Stribling during the week of the regular meeting date, the February meeting had been scheduled to take place one week earlier than the normal meeting date.

PRESENT:

In attendance were Mayor Palmer, Councillors Stead and Stribling, and the administrator Pat Tomkow.

One member of the public was present at the meeting

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

M#01-2005 Stribling: that the agenda be adopted as printed and circulated.

Carried Unanimously

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

M#02-2005 Palmer: that the Minutes of Regular Council Meeting held December 23, 2004 be adopted as printed and distributed.

Carried Unanimously

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:

a) Streets Improvement Program

It was agreed that a revised project plan and budget for the Streets Improvement Project would be completed during the first week in March.

b) Lagoon Berm Repairs

Updated project estimates including change in scope are to be forwarded to Alberta Transportation.

c) Super Net Project

Other than testing and inspections, there has been no further progress on the Super Net connection. Mayor Palmer instructed the administrator to contact Innovation & Science and inquire as to the time line that the community can expect to receive high speed internet service.

CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Vegreville Water Commission

Notice that the rates charged to municipalities for water will increase by 2.4 cents per cubic meter effective January 1, 2005.

M#03-2005 Stead: that the bi-monthly base rate for water billings be increased from \$33.00 to \$34.00 effective January 1, 2005.

Carried Unanimously

b) AUMA- Munishare Initiative

December 17, 2004 notice advising that the province had contributed \$3.5 million from Alberta Innovation and Science to assist the AUMA Munishare initiative. Munishare began as an E-Financial Shared Services Initiative to enable municipalities of all sizes to benefit through standardized accounting software.

c) Safety Codes Council

December 23, 2004 letter confirming that effective April 1, 2005 new levies for accredited municipalities will be calculated at \$4 or 3.5% of permit costs, whichever is the greater.

d) Federation of Canadian Municipalities

February 1, 2005 Members' Advisory regarding the Federal Government Announcement of a formula for sharing the federal gas tax. The Government will contribute \$5 Billion over five years according to an allocation formula that includes most of FCM's recommendations.

M#04-2005 Stead: that the foregoing correspondence items be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Council had received with the agenda, a preliminary Statement of Operating Revenues and Expenditures for the period ending December 31, 2004. It was noted that the statements will be finalized and year-end adjustments made in preparation for the scheduled year-end audit commencing March 7, 2005.

M#05-2005 Stribling: that the Financial Reports for the period ending December 31, 2004 be received for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

M#06-2005 Palmer that the accounts covered by cheque numbers 20040504 to 200500034 inclusive, for the total sum of \$53,723.31 be and are hereby approved for payment.

Carried Unanimously

OTHER BUSINESS:

a) Subdivision Lots

A seven lot parcel subdivision comprising Block B, Plan 762 1605 had been registered at the land Titles office. Lot prices would need to be set when the properties are serviced. Information on Alberta Environment approval requirements for extension of water/sewer mains was also provided at the meeting.

M#07-2005 Stribling: that the report on the subdivision lots be accepted as information.

Carried Unanimously

b) Cost Review-Chipman Ag Society Maintenance Agreement

A report comparing the 2003 and 2004 year operational costs for the Chipman Agricultural Society had been provided with the agenda. It was agreed that the annual rental fees need to be adjusted to reflect the village's actual costs of providing service. A 50/50 cost split was also suggested. Councillor Stribling agreed to invite Ag Society representatives to meet with Council for the purpose of reviewing operations and negotiating a cost share arrangement.

c) Truck Fill Project

As the Municipal Sponsorship Grant application for a truck fill had been approved, the project will need to be implemented. The Village received the full grant allocation of \$10,000.

Mayor Palmer indicated that he would be reviewing the various systems with suppliers at the Alberta Water/Wastewater Conference to ensure an efficient and cost effective system was selected for the village. If a larger system is required, the Village should investigate PFRA funding.

d) Foreman's Wages

M#08-2005 Stead: that the foreman's and administrator be given a wage increase of \$1.00 per hour.

Carried Unanimously

e) Alberta Water/Wastewater Operator's Seminar

M#09-2005 Palmer: that public works foreman Larry Derksen be authorized to attend the Operator's Association Seminar to be held March 8 – 11th in Banff.

Carried Unanimously

f) Bruderheim School Closure

A letter of support signed by local municipalities urging Elk Island School authorities to work with the Town of Bruderheim to achieve a sustainable elementary school had been circulated to Council.

M#10-2005 Stribling: that Council ratify the letter of support addressed to Elk Island Schools regarding Bruderheim school closure discussions.

Carried Unanimously

g) Reservoir Pump Controls

Following numerous on site repairs by Sturgeon Rewind, it was agreed that all invoicing and documents pertaining to the pump upgrade be reviewed and that the last invoice from Sturgeon not be paid until the system is operating in accordance with the program design. Public works was requested to set up a meeting with Sturgeon Rewind.

h) Alberta Capital Finance Authority

The Annual General Meeting of the Authority will be held Thursday March 10, in Edmonton and a resolution of Council is required for municipal attendees.

M#11-2005 Palmer: that Councillor Stead be authorized to attend and vote the Village shares at the Annual General Meeting of Alberta Capital Finance Authority to be held March 10, 2005 in Edmonton.

Carried Unanimously

i) ATCO Electric – Marketing Your Organization Symposium

Information designed to provide participants with new and innovative ideas for marketing community projects and events. Cost \$40.00.

Item was declined and no further action taken.

j) Lamont Health Care Centre Donation Request

Communities are being asked to make a contribution towards a special meditative garden for patients, families and community.

Discussion followed. No further action taken.

k) LGA (Local Government Administrators) Conference

M#12-2005 Palmer: that Pat Tomkow be authorized to attend the LGA Conference to be held March 16 – 18th in Red Deer.

Carried Unanimously

REPORTS:

a) Administrator's

The administrator provided a written report, which made reference to the following:

- water rate information from the Vegreville Water Services Commission. This was covered earlier in the meeting.
- Meeting of CAOs held in Bruderheim for the purpose of devising a formula for recreation funding to be contributed by Lamont County towards rural facility usage within the towns and villages. A consultant was hired by Lamont County to gather information on costs from local municipalities.
- Draft fire services agreement proposed by Lamont County setting out changes in fire department funding. Fixed costs to be split on a 50/50 basis, variable costs (percentage of County fire calls) to be reimbursed at 100%. A 25-year plan for capital is proposed. Capital cost allocation is 75%/25% split between the County the local jurisdiction.
- Telus has acknowledged receipt of 9-1-1 contract documents. The next step to implementation involves working with Telus to develop an address plan.
- Notice that the Municipal Government Board has denied the Telus appeals for the years 1999, 200, 2001 and 2002.
- Alberta Environment follow-up on number of water samples taken in December. Whether or not there is courier service or closure for holidays, the minimum requirement of four monthly samples must be met. Annual reporting is still required despite move to on line submission of chlorine analysis.
- Annual report to Worker's Compensation Board.
- Reynolds Mirth Law Seminar March 11th. It was agreed that Councillor Stead and the administrator would attend.

M#13-2005 Palmer: that the administrator's report be accepted for information and that the administrator contact Liz McGuinness at Alberta Environment for clarification on annual reporting requirements.

Carried Unanimously

b) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

i) Ambulance Board

Councillor Stead indicated that the next ambulance Board meeting will be held in March.

ii) Lamont County Fire Advisory Committee

Mayor's and CAO's will meet in March to discuss the proposed fire agreement.

iii) County of Lamont Regional Landfill Commission

Councillor Stribling reported that there have not been any meetings held since November. Regular meetings are held twice during the year.

iv) County of Lamont Senior's Foundation

Summary of December 20th meeting was distributed with the agenda. Next meeting to be held February 28th in Lamont.

iv) C.R. Vegreville Corridor Water Services Commission

Mayor Palmer indicated that the Commission Board is meeting February 10th in Bruderheim. An status report on the pump upgrade will be provided to members at the meeting.

v) LEAP (Lamont Economic Alliance Partnership)

Reports of LEAP meetings held December 13, 2004 and January 24, 2005 had been circulated with the agenda.

Discussion with Lamont County confirmed that the LEAP Board is to be comprised of 4 rural and five urban representatives. In the future the Board is to be comprised of 6 public at large and 3 elected officials. If Chipman appoints a member at large, then the elected official from Chipman is replaced. Councillor Stead acknowledged willingness to have Chipman appoint a member at large.

M#14-2005 Palmer: that Ms. Angela Kostiuk be appointed at the Village representative at large to the Lamont County LEAP Board for a one year term.

Carried Unanimously

vi) Chipman Agricultural Society

Councillor Stribling indicated he will talk to the Ag Society regarding a meeting with Chipman Council.

vii) Lamont Two Hills BDC – Manager's Report

Copies of the December 15th report were enclosed with the agenda. The BDC is a non-profit corporation operated by local municipal authorities for the benefits of residents of the Counties of Lamont, Two Hills, Minburn and the rural portion of Strathcona County. BDC is funded in part by Western Economic Diversification.

viii) FCSS (Family and Community Support Services Lamont County Region)

Councillor Stribling presented the FCSS 2004 Year End Report. The report summarized the role of FCSS and listed programs offered during the 2004 year.

FCSS had asked for office space for one-day a week and to date, have not used the spare office. Mayor Palmer indicated that if FCSS is meeting clients at the hall during Moms and Tots, an hourly rate should be charged.

M#15-2005 Stribling: that the Committee and Board Reports be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION:

a) Alberta Transportation Signage

Mayor Palmer indicated that inquires should be made to Alberta Transportation for obtaining signage to advertise the BDC computer for tourism e-mails.

b) CN Grass Cutting

The matter of invoicing to CN for grass cutting was raised at the meeting. Council suggested that the village contact CN and ask them to turn over the lands to the village in exchange for survey costs.

ADJOURNMENT:

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Mayor, Jim Palmer

Administrator, Pat Tomkow