

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE OF CHIPMAN
February 12, 2007

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Jim Palmer called the regular monthly meeting to order at 8:20 p.m.

PRESENT:

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

One ratepayer sat in to observe the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

M#13-2007 Stribling: that the agenda be adopted as printed and distributed.

Carried Unanimously

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

M#14-2007 Palmer: that the Minutes of Regular Council Meeting held January 5, 2007 be adopted as printed and distributed.

Carried Unanimously

DELEGATIONS:

a) Neil Siemens – Edmonton Soaring Club

Mr. Siemens advised Council that the Club will be offering ‘familiarization’ rides again for \$90.00 per hour but will be offering 10 rides for free at their 50th anniversary celebrations. The club is proposing to erect an 8’x14’ sign advertising the Club that will not block the view to the highway. Agreed that Chipman will assist with Alberta First Call.

Mr. Siemens thanked Council and left the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

b) Betty Thirlwell – Chipman Historical Foundation

Mrs. Thirlwell discussed the Foundation’s desire to submit an application for funding from Rural Alberta’s Development Fund to help with restoration of the Chipman National Hall.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:

a) Water Sewer Policy

Council reviewed and accepted the final wording changes to the draft policy.

M#15-2007 Palmer: that the Water Sewer Policy be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

b) Snow Clearing Policy

Council reviewed and accepted the final wording changes to the draft policy and agreement.

M#16-2007 Stead: that the Snow Clearing Policy be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

c) National Hall Rental Agreement

Council discussed the terms of the draft Agreement, in particular the alternative provisions for insurance, as well as Schedule A – Cleaning Instructions. Council agreed to adopt the second insurance clause option.

M#17-2007 Stribling: that the National Hall Rental Agreement and Schedule be adopted, and that a laminated copy of Schedule A – Cleaning Instructions – be posted in the National Hall kitchen.

Carried Unanimously

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Statement of Operating Revenues/Expenditures to January 31, 2007

The administrator reviewed the statement with Council comparing revenues to expenditure levels.

M#18-2007 Stribling: to adopt the Statement as presented.

Carried Unanimously

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

M#19-2007 Stead: that the accounts covered by cheque numbers 2007-0001 to 2007-0061 inclusive for the total sum of \$64,615.64 be and are hereby approved for payment.

Carried Unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE (Information Items):

a) Alberta Infrastructure & Transportation Jan. 3/07 - 2006 grant payment (\$16,666) *Streets Improvement Program*.

b) Alberta Infrastructure – Confirmation from Minister re: \$100,000 Alberta Municipal Infrastructure Program (AMIP) grant.

c) Alberta Infrastructure – Confirmation from Minister re: \$19,066 *New Deal* grant. Administration advised that the grant payments were made through direct deposit to the Village bank account.

d) Lamont County – Pandemic Planning inter-municipal meeting held January 25/07. Council agreed that Toni Nygren will attend the Camrose meeting as the Village's second representative.

e) Alberta Environment – Promotion of programs for Pollution Prevention Activities.

f) AMSC – amendment to Election Act allowing municipalities to pass a bylaw requiring proof of ID prior to voting.

g) Lamont County Community Adult Learning Council – letter of thanks for hosting Annual General Meeting. Boardroom décor and murals were complimented.

h) Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security – development of governance structure Alberta First Responder Radio Communication System.

Councillor Stead elaborated on problems encountered by interference of CB channels with emergency networks. Council asked that the Administrator contact the department contact for further information on direction of public safety radio communications in Alberta.

i) Alberta Energy and Utilities Board – Notice of publication and February 21, 2007 deadline to file objection to Village of Chipman/Fortis Electric Franchise Agreement.

M#20-2007 Stead: that the correspondence items be received as information.

Carried Unanimously

OTHER BUSINESS:

- a) Lamont County Ambulance Board – response from Don Harsulla, Vice Chairman, re: Village challenge to legal fees invoice for 2005 ambulance agreement.

Council discussed this matter at length and Mayor Palmer posed several questions stating the whole issue here is business practice and precedent that could be set by charging for Board costs outside of the requisition. Councillor Stead was questioned as to why as Board Chair, did someone other than himself sign the letter.

M#21-2007 Palmer: that the Village pay invoice 05-311 in the amount of \$229.28.

Carried Unanimously

- b) Chipman Highway Sign – damage estimates.

Council asked the Administrator to obtain particulars on the Ideal Signs estimate.

- c) Chipman Community Meeting Room – User’s Manual.

M#22-2007 Stead: that the User’s Manual be adopted and a laminated copy be posted in the Kitchen area of the Village Office.

Carried Unanimously

- d) Village of Chipman – revised Work Order for Public Works

Council discussed the revisions and requested that the work order form be amended to reflect the date of acceptance by council.

M#23-2007 Palmer: that the revised Work Order be adopted as amended.

Carried Unanimously

- e) 5th Annual Small Communities Conference - March 29-31, Forestburg, Alberta. Registration fees \$80.00.

M#24-2007 Palmer: that Councillor Stead attend the Conference.

Carried Unanimously

- f) ATCO Electric – Vision for the Future: Building a Vibrant Organization Conference - April 12, 2007. Cost \$45.00 / person.

M#25-2007 Palmer: that the Village pay for one hotel room, one night and conference costs for Susan Campbell and Cindy Lindemann to attend.

Carried Unanimously

- g) Emergency Training Courses – Bill Boskwick

Administration reviewed the list of employee training courses on record with Emergency Management Alberta for confirmation purposes.

A listing of Emergency Management Training Courses conducted by EMA training officers was circulated at the meeting. Municipalities wishing to arrange for courses should contact their District Officer.

The administrator was requested to check into the status of the JEPP grant.

- h) Rental Agreement

The lease on the quarter section with Gerald Yost expires this year and does not merit renewal as a result of current farming practices. A drainage project is being considered by the Village and heavy equipment will be required to cross the land. The administrator was instructed to write and advise the tenant accordingly.

REPORTS:

Administrator's Report

- subdivision lots not yet available from surveyors.
- conditions for tax recovery sale should be announced at the auction regarding removal and demolition of dangerous uninhabitable structures. In the case of absentee landlord, allow owner two weeks to remove belongings if village intends to burn down/demolish the structure.
- Administration asked for direction to deal with delinquent truck fill accounts.
- Municipal Sponsorship Grant applications are still under review.

M#26-2007 Palmer: that written warning be given to account holders that the pin and account numbers will be disabled from system if account unpaid and that a \$50.00 reconnection fee be charged to reactive the account.

- Alberta Municipal Affairs in conjunction with the Government Finance Officers Association, will be offering workshops for municipalities to address the new PSAB requirements for amortization of tangible assets. The administrator planned to attend the March 28th session. in Morinville.
- Emergency Management has provided participants of the Emergency Public Warning system with pin numbers to access the media and have suggested running practice sessions with Alberta Emergency Management.

M#27-2007 Stribling: that the Administrator's Report be accepted for information.

Carried Unanimously

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- i) Ambulance Report
This was dealt with previously on the agenda.
- ii) Fire Department
Councillor Stead and the Administrator attended the February 5th Fire Chief's meeting in Lamont. A 25-year capital plan is being considered along with plans for replacement of the County pumpers.
- iii) Lamont County Regional Solid Waste Commission
Question of County Landfill Lagoon was brought forward and allowing County access to Chipman's Lagoon.
- iv) Lamont Seniors' Foundation
Councillor Stead indicated his attendance at the upcoming ASCHA Convention
- v) Vegreville Corridor Water Services Commission
Strathcona County has been awarded the operating contract for the Vegreville Corridor and Northeast Commission systems. Maintenance issues need to be resolved with the City of Fort Saskatchewan.
- vi) Chipman Agricultural Society
The Cutter Rally will take place on February 24 and Fair Days will be held on June 9, 2007.
- vii) FCSS
Annual Report forthcoming
- viii) LEAP
Next LEAP meeting to be held February 15; two upcoming trade shows, one in Sherwood Park, the other in Fort Saskatchewan.

- ix) Mayor's/CAO's meeting – January 18
Councillor Stribling and Susan Campbell attended the meeting on behalf of Mayor Palmer and Pat Tomkow. The next meeting will be April 19 in Chipman.

Mayor Palmer indicated frustration with the lack of progress as the County interests differ from those of the participating towns and Villages.

M# 28-2007 Palmer: that the Village of Chipman withdraw from group and advise that County that the Village will no longer be participating in the Mayors' / CAO meetings.

Carried Unanimously

M#29-2006 Palmer: that the Committee and Board Reports be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

Mayor Palmer reported on a meeting with Developer Ken Rai (Golden Square Developments) who is interested in building a seniors' complex and affordable housing in Chipman. The developer agreed to prepare and present plans for Council approval.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Palmer adjourned the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Mayor, Jim Palmer

Administrator, Pat Tomkow