

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE VILLAGE OF CHIPMAN
March 13, 2006**

CALL TO ORDER:

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

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.

Prior to the meeting Council heard a presentation from Leo VanBrabant, president of MCSNet regarding the installation of high speed wireless internet services for the community.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

M#27-2006 Stribling: that the agenda be adopted as printed and circulated together with the addition of the following items under New Business.

- j) Persona Community Investment Grant Program
- k) Career Placements Program application
- l) Agriculture Week appreciation ad

and correspondence item 7 (g) Minister of Infrastructure

Carried Unanimously

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

M#28-2006 Stead: that the Minutes of Regular Council Meeting held February 13, 2006 be adopted as printed and distributed.

Carried Unanimously

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES:

- a) High Speed Internet

In order for MCSN to provide High Speed Internet Service to the village and surrounding 10 mile area they will require access to the water tower for installation of their equipment and a tie-in to the Supernet in order to send a signal to the tower.

Residents would be required to invest \$300.00 for a receiver

A variety of plans starting at \$39.95 per month are offered based on speed and customer requirements The Village would receive the service for free.

M#29-2006 Stead: that the Village write a letter to MCSNet authorizing utilization of the water tower for wireless internet service on condition that the service is provided free of charge to the Village of Chipman.

Carried Unanimously

b) Unsightly Properties Action-Status Update

Council had received with the agenda, a copy of February 17th 2006 correspondence from village solicitors Reynolds Mirth requesting payment of costs from the respondent, Mr. Baker. On this action it was noted that at partial clean-up was initiated by the respondent February 23, the final date stipulated under the Court Order. The village solicitors have been advised accordingly.

The Pentyliuk property will be inspected following the specified deadline of March 31, 2006 set out the Consent Order.

Following successful Court action the village will then initiate proceedings against several other holders of unsightly properties to obtain conformance.

c) Tax Recovery – Public Sale of Land

Administration confirmed that the required notice of public sale of land has been sent to the registered owners. Legislation requires that Council establish a reserve bids for the parcels being offered for sale under the tax recovery provisions of the MGA.

M#30-2006 Palmer: that reserve bids be established as follows:

- \$ 24,240.00 - Lot 14, Block 2, Plan 5250-Q
- 2,680.00 - Lot 15, Block 2, Plan 5250-Q
- 5,000.00 – Lot 19, Block 15, Plan 762 1886

Carried Unanimously

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Several information items were included with the February 28, 2006 Revenue/Expense Report to better illustrate the provide additional detail on the comparative '2005 Actual' column totals.

These included:

- summary of 2005 capital asset additions and grant funding,
- 2005 G.L. detail of revenues/expenses including explanatory notes for Streets and Roads Capital and the Truck fill project.
- Detailed statement of fire department revenues under the new agreement with Lamont County

Administration noted that the 2005 statements will be finalized upon receipt of the auditors adjusting entries.

M#31-2006 Stribling: that the Financial Reports and supporting detail for the period ending February 28, 2005 be received for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

M#32-2006 Palmer: that the accounts covered by cheque numbers 20060038 to 20060073 inclusive, for the total sum of \$21,070.87 be and are hereby approved for payment.

Carried Unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation – statement of 5-year program funding and acknowledgement for accounting of 2004 Annual SIP grant.

b) Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation – February 28, 2006 letter advising that a grant amount of \$16,666 representing the 2005 Annual Streets Improvement Program has been transferred to the Village of Chipman.

c) Alberta Environment
February 28, 2006 letter confirming that the Village of Chipman has met the submission date of required annual report for the water/wastewater system.

d) Minister of Municipal Affairs
Announcement of funding allocated for emergency management training on a regional basis.

e) ATCO Gas
March 2, 2006 correspondence to the Alberta Energy and Utilities Board regarding renewal of the Franchise Agreement for the Village of Chipman.

f) Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation
March 10, 2006 correspondence indicating that the remaining grant monies under the 1997 Road Upgrade Project totaling \$24,179.14 have been electronically transferred to the Village of Chipman.

g) Minister of Infrastructure and Transportation
January 31, 2006 correspondence advising that Village will be eligible for 75% funding (\$42,750) under Alberta Water/Wastewater Partnership for lagoon erosion control project.

M# 33-2006 Stribling: that the foregoing correspondence items be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

OTHER BUSINESS:

a) Alberta Capital Finance Authority (ACFA) Annual Meeting
The annual general meeting and 50th anniversary luncheon of ACFA will take place on Wednesday, March 29 2006 in Edmonton. A Council resolution is required appointing a representative to vote at the Annual General Meeting.

M#24-2006 Palmer: That village council approve the attendance of Councillor Stead at the annual general meeting of ACFA.

Carried Unanimously

b) 2006 STEP Program- Participation Approval
M#35-2006 Palmer: that Chipman Village Council ratify the application for a summer student under the STEP Program.

Carried Unanimously

c) Alberta Solicitor General
Request to the village accept one community service position for 100 hours to be completed by March 31st. Supervision would be carried out by the public works foreman.

M#36-2006 Stribling: that the Village of Chipman accept the referral for the specified time frame.

Carried Unanimously

d) Alberta Municipal Affairs –Assessment Review Board Training Sessions
Notice of and schedule of training sessions offered in May 2006.

No further action taken.

e) OHS Service Levels for Fire Departments

Current legislation requires each municipality to set a level of service for fire department members. This is also a stipulation of the 2005 Emergency Services Agreement with Lamont County.

Discussion ensued on this item. Councillor and Fire Chief Gary Stead noted limited availability of fire fighting personnel and the resulting problems stating that we, the fire department do the best we can.

He also confirmed that all departments have access to the County Tanker and that communication problems happen when fire departments do not utilize the County frequency (2).

The administrator was asked to check further OHS requirements for the purpose of devising a Level of Service and Code of Practice.

f) Doors Open Initiative – Lamont County

Doors Open Alberta 2006 Information and Community Package outlined the requirements for participation and accessing \$500 in grant funding to promote the community and publishing of brochures. Access to Doors Open web site available to participating municipalities.

Village had already made most of the arrangements to hold Doors Open during the Car Crafters show and shine . Chipman Historical Foundation Vice President Kim Robinson through her employment with the Heritage Community Foundation will look after posting Chipman information on the Doors Open Web Site.

g) Lagoon Berm Repair Grant Application (2000)

Cost share 75% Grant funding \$42,750 under the Alberta Municipal Water/Wastewater Partnership will be provided for the lagoon erosion control program established by the village in the 2000 year. The municipality must finance the project and then submit a claim to Alberta Infrastructure.

M# 37-2006 Stribling: that Council ratify the signing of the agreement by the Mayor and Administrator.

Carried Unanimously

h) Lamont Regional Partnership Initiative Program Grant

Following Mayors' and CAO Meeting of March 6, 2006 participants were requested to obtain approval for participation in the first phase of regional bylaw enforcement for consultant to conduct an analysis of service needs, benefits and costs.

M#38-2006 Stribling: that approval for participation in the bylaw enforcement segment of the Regional Partnership be approved.

Carried Unanimously

i) Personna Community Grant Program

the program is an economic assistance initiative designed to assist communities fund capital works projects. Maximum funding \$2,500 per project.

As the village has been unsuccessful in attaining program funding it was agreed that the application be forwarded to the Chipman Historical Foundation.

k) Career Placements Program

Federally funding program providing summer employment opportunities to full time students. Wage subsidy level of \$3.00 / hour.

M#39-2006 Palmer: that the village apply for two maintenance positions to be paid at a rate of \$7.00 per hour.

Carried Unanimously

l) Salute to Agriculture –Ad Request

Rather than place at ad for agriculture week, Administration was advised that it would be the preference of Council to place this type for the grand opening of the Truck fill planned for April.

Discussion ensued on plans for the grand opening.

REPORTS:

a) Administrator's

The administrator submitted a written report, which addressed the following topics:

- Ordering of new Standards and Guidelines manual for Municipal Water/Wastewater works.
- AFCA 5-year debenture repayment schedule
- Emergency Services Mutual Aid Agreement Beaver County and Lamont County municipalities.
- Fire Incident Reporting Requirements – Fire Commissioners Office
- Southern Alberta Light Horse Reconnaissance Training
- Tax Recovery-Hickmore Estate
- Demolition of Chipman School
- Curling Rink break-in and vandalism
- 2006 Census requirements
- ATCO Gas franchise fees Feb 2006.
- Vegreville Water Commission Minutes December 2005.
- Municipal Refresher Course May 10-13, Kananaskis
- Government Finance Officers Conference June 7-9 Grande Prairie

M#40-2006 Palmer: that the administrator's report be accepted for information.

Carried Unanimously

b) COMMITTEE REPORTS:

i) Ambulance Board

Lamont County Ambulance Board Chairman, Gary Stead, informed the meeting that some of the Equipment owned by the Board had been sold and proceeds would be utilized to offset the requisition.

ii) Lamont County Fire Advisory Committee

No items

iii) County of Lamont Regional Landfill Commission

No Items.

iv) County of Lamont Senior's Foundation

Councillor Stead advised that a recreation director had been hired.

iv) C.R. Vegreville Corridor Water Services Commission

Mayor Palmer, Commission Chairman, advised that Lamont County at their February meeting had committed to the building of reservoir storage.

v) LEAP (Lamont Economic Alliance Partnership)

No Items

vi) Chipman Agricultural Society

Reported that cutter rally a successes.

viii) FCSS (Family and Community Support Services)

Councillor Stribling indicated that an FCSS meeting is to be held later in March.

ix) Mayors' and CAO Meeting

Mayor Palmer stated that the process of hiring a regional is taking far too long and that he is tired of meetings that accomplish nothing.

x) Disaster Services Workshop – Pandemic Influenza

Councillor Stead provided material on the East Central Health Pandemic Planning Inter Agency planning workshop held March 9th in Viking.

M#41-2006 Stribling: that the Committee and Board Reports be accepted for information purposes.

Carried Unanimously

M#42-2006 Palmer: that the administrator be given a \$2.00 per hour raise retroactive to January 1, 2006.

Carried Unanimously

QUESTIONS OF COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION

ADJOURNMENT:

M# 43-2006 Stead: that the meeting adjourn.

Time: 9:33 p.m.

Mayor, Jim Palmer

Administrator, Pat Tomkow