

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTEENTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GIBBONS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2011

Council Present: Mayor Nimmo, Deputy Mayor Parsons, Councillors Fraser, Horner, Sandahl and Wyatt

Council Absent: Councillor Rollison

Staff Present: Henry Taylor, Town Manager, Kelly Taylor, Community Services Director, Eric Lowe, Superintendent of Public Works and Chris Sutherland, Recording Secretary

Guests: Dennis Magnusson, Executive Director, Sturgeon Foundation

As there was a quorum present, Mayor Nimmo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

1. Councillor Horner requested "Communication" as Item 8.3 and "Council Email" as Item 8.4.
2. Councillor Wyatt requested an In-Camera Session.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

11/199 Councillor Wyatt moved that the agenda be adopted as amended. CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

1. Organizational Meeting – October 26, 2011

11/200 Councillor Fraser moved that the minutes of the Organizational Meeting held on October 26, 2011 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

2. Regular Meeting – October 26, 2011

Councillor Fraser advised that there was a typo in the CAO Report, under Capital Projects it should read "walk through" not "talk through".

11/201 Councillor Sandahl moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on October 26, 2011 be adopted as amended. CARRIED.

ACCOUNTS

1. Accounts

11/202 Mayor Nimmo moved the total of the accounts in the amount of \$379,412.52 be ordered paid. CARRIED.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Dennis Magnusson, Executive Director, Sturgeon Foundation

Mayor Nimmo welcomed Dennis Magnusson, the new Executive Director of the Sturgeon Foundation.

Councillor Wyatt advised that Mr. Magnusson came highly recommended and came from big organizations and the Board is very pleased with him.

Mr. Magnusson advised that he is pleased to be part of the board as it is an interesting time to be part of seniors housing and has a great board to work with. He believes that planning will be a big part of what they do over the next 2 -3 years. Government has put a lot of emphasis on services for seniors. Many of the Foundation's facilities are older and much of their time has been spent in the maintenance and up keep of these senior's facilities. The Foundation will work closely with the Capital Region Board and the various government departments involved in determining what services, programs and needs are needed. It has a great impact on the communities. Controlling costs and budgets are very important. He is very willing to respond to any questions that council or administration may have.

Mayor Nimmo asked about issues in dealing with people that become incompetent to deal with their own affairs-dementia, alzheimer; is it possible that with the vacancies that a small area could be set up to deal with this issue. Mr. Magnusson advised that the vacancies could be related to the small rooms and that they will be meeting to discuss this. Needs are changing and the system is having problems coping with senior housing, home care and the

long term care in hospitals. The Foundation is not equipped to handle dementia and alzheimer. We may have to eventually get involved with this and will work with other agencies such as Alberta Health, etc. Expanding rooms into larger rooms could be a possibility. The Gibbons' facility has an excellent location for expansion. Councillor Fraser commented that at one time there was talk about offering space for persons on AISH. Magnusson advised that they have to know where the government wants us to go and consider all the options before doing something like that.

Mr. Magnusson left the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Sturgeon Regional Economic Development Committee – Intermunicipal Cooperation Protocol (2010)

Council discussed the Cooperation Protocol and recommended that the terms of office for council members coincide with the election term and that the public members be a 4 year term to maintain continuity. Mayor Nimmo suggested that Councillor Horner (Chair of Sturgeon Regional Economic Development Committee) take the recommendations to the next committee meeting for consideration.

11/203 Councillor Sandahl moved acceptance providing that the Committee looks into the terms of office and brings back recommendations for consideration. CARRIED.

2. Enbridge Northern Gateway CAB – Request for Alternate Member

Councillor Fraser volunteered to be the alternate for the Enbridge Northern Gateway Community Advisory Board.

3. Communication

Councillor Horner referenced an article in the Free Press regarding a recent fossil-finding expedition near Gibbons. Councillor Horner asked who gave them permission and why was council not aware of this. Mr. Taylor advised that Town staff authorized the expedition and that he had included it in a report to Council. Councillor Horner requested a copy of the report and asked that Council be made aware of all events going on in and around town.

4. Council Email

Councillor Horner asked why Council did not have their own email address and expressed concern that the Mayor and Council are not receiving all mail that is addressed to them. It was explained that Administration has always screened the emails and forward on emails that they thought were of importance. Council does not have their own emails, as record retention is impossible if the office is not receiving all documents.

11/204 Councillor Horner moved that all mail addressed to Mayor and/or Council be forwarded to the Mayor and/or Council. CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Policy No. PW30-11 – On Site Excavation Marking and Safety Policy for Unattended Excavations

11/205 Councillor Sandahl moved to approve Policy No. PW30-11- On Site Excavation Marking and Safety Policy for Unattended Excavations as presented. CARRIED.

2. Communities In Bloom Results – 5 Blooms

A formal presentation will be made at the next regular meeting of Council. This item was received as information.

3. Emerging Trends 2012 – Who will be attending?

Mayor Nimmo will attend topic 1, Councillors Fraser and Wyatt will attend topic 2.

4. Northern Lights Library System – 2012 Budget

11/206 Councillor Sandahl moved to approve the .22¢ per capita levy increase for 2012 as presented by the Northern Lights Library System. CARRIED.

BYLAWS

1. Bylaw No. PI 2/11 – A Bylaw of the Town of Gibbons in the Province of Alberta to Establish a Means of Vehicle Control Within the Boundaries of the Town of Gibbons

Council discussed Bylaw No. PI 2/11 and recommended the following changes:

Part 2 – Definitions

- b) “commercial vehicle” is not complete. Administration will investigate

Part 3 – Parking

2. No person shall occupy a recreational vehicle unit for the purpose of living or sleeping while parked on a Highway.

Council asked that “or sleeping” be removed and a time frame of 7 days be added.

Changes will be made and the bylaw will be brought back for approval.

STAFF REPORTS

1. CAO’s Report

Capital Budget:

All of the capital projects budgeted for the 2011 fiscal year have been completed with the exception of the repair of the outfall line which lies west of the cemetery in the river valley. The reason this project has not proceeded is the Town has yet to receive approval from Alberta Environment. This project will likely appear in the 2012 budget. The only other variation in the capital projects for this year is that of the 9 new hydrants that were planned; only 7 were installed. One was deleted from the project as it was not needed and one could not be installed in its designated location due to conflicting underground structures. A new location will be found for this hydrant and will most likely be tagged to another water project. The planned water tie at 51st Street 48th Avenue will be deferred to 2012 due to unavailability of contractors.

Budget Planning 2012:

Staff has completed their initial input of operational expenditures proposed for 2012 and will meet the morning of November 9th to start the process of prioritizing projects and looking at initial cuts to their estimates. At the November 22nd workshop with Council we will be presenting both the Operational and Capital budget proposal for 2012. We will also present proposals for enhanced Bylaw Enforcement and a proposal regarding a communication plan as per the Council Retreat in January 2011.

Cultural Centre Funding:

The Town is now in receipt of all grant funding for this project. A summary is provided as an attachment to this report. The draft RFP is almost complete and will be before Council on November 23, 2011 for consideration.

Highway Library Sign:

Transportation has been contacted and has informed us that the current sign is not big enough for an additional sign. We are looking at options and costs to have a standalone sign place in those highway locations.

Christmas Office Hours:

Christmas will fall on Sunday this year, therefore regular office hours will be maintained through to December 23rd. The Office will be closed on December 26 and 27th. Regular Office Hours will be maintained from December 28th to 30th. With the office again closed on January 2, 2012 and reopening again on January 3rd.

Council Meeting Schedule:

Does Council wish to cancel their regular Council meeting on December 21st?

2. Public Works Report

a) Water

Chlorine is at 1.09 mg/ltr average for 3 weeks. The minimum chlorine is 0.5 mg/ltr the high is 1.5 mg/ltr. This is at the reservoir; by the time it reaches the residence it is lower. We also do grab samples at various locations through the Town 5 days a week and send in a Bacterial Test to the lab once a week from various spots around Town.

Reservoir is at 90%.

Hydrants are winterized.

b) Sewer

Industrial Park holding tanks are being emptied once a week.

The lift station failed last week due to a ruptured line within the station itself. It has been repaired and it seems to be running better, we will monitor.

The lining of the sewer line on 51 Street is completed.

There was one residential backup our lines were clear.

c) Roads

Potholes are ongoing.

All paving will be completed this week.

d) Parks

The lights at the West entrance sign is now on.

Trees have been watered and pruned. The pruning is ongoing through the winter months as time permits.

e) General

Our half shelter roof is done.

Equipment is being winterized.

11/207

Councillor Horner moved to receive the staff reports as presented. CARRIED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Gibbons Fire Department

Councillor Horner attended and advised that 2 AED's have been purchased with money donated by the Bon Accord/Gibbons Ambulance. He also reported that Deputy Chief Rubin is stepping down as of December 31/11. Applications are being accepted and interviews will be held on November 29th.

2. Mayor's Breakfast

Councillor Wyatt attended and met the new Commander at the Base.

3. Sturgeon River Historical Society

Councillor Wyatt attended the windup meeting and advised that they are looking for new members.

4. Sturgeon Foundation

Mayor Nimmo and Councillor Wyatt had an informal meeting with Dennis Magnusson.

5. Gibbons Cultural Centre

Councillor Wyatt advised that the Committee had their first meeting and feels that they have a great group of volunteers.

6. Landing Trail School – Remembrance Day Service

Mayor Nimmo and Councillors Sandahl and Wyatt attended.

7. Gibbons School – Remembrance Day Service

Mayor Nimmo and Councillor Sandahl attended the Remembrance Day Service.

8. Library Board

Councillor Sandahl attended and reported that some of the money they have asked for is to fund cases to send dvd's back and forth between the libraries. In 2010, the interlibrary loans for NLLS were some 74,000 separate items. They have a van that they use to deliver these items and it cost about a third of what it would cost to send it by Canada Post. Some of the money is going to reserve funds to maintain and purchase vans in the future. Service Canada has appointed Elk Point Library as a service point for the provincial materials. They are meeting the needs of people that want to borrow books.

9. Community Futures Tawatinaw Region

Councillor Sandahl attended and advised that Dave Latta's name was put forwarded as our representative but was not elected. Councillor Sandahl is concerned that because he was not elected that we may lose the office in Westlock as a major focal point, but because of the amount of business they do, they should be safe.

10. Victim Services

Councillor Fraser attended and they mainly discussed where they are going to get money from to keep their program running. They run a 17 week program for people that have been referred to them for family violence. They are spending a lot of time and energy finding money keeping this program running. They are covered by a grant through the RCMP for the next session in January. They are doing 2 presentations on Family Violence; one on November 15th in Redwater and another in Morinville on November 22nd.

11. Sturgeon County – Annexation

Mayor Nimmo and Mr. Taylor attended the Sturgeon County Council meeting to discuss the annexation for the 3 quarters on the east side of the highway. He felt that they did have support from some members of council if it was going to be highway commercial and not residential. We will wait for a formal response.

11/208 Councillor Wyatt moved to go in camera to discuss land & personnel issues. CARRIED. Council went in-camera at 8:28 p.m.

11/209 Councillor Sandahl moved to revert to normal sitting. CARRIED. Council reverted to normal sitting at 9:19 p.m.

Council requested administration draft a policy on staff and council attending out of province conferences.

It was the consensus of council that administration draft and bring forward to council a resolution approving the town's portion of funding for the Cultural Centre.

11/210 Councillor Fraser moved not to approve the request from Western Capital Properties Inc. for a refund on their property taxes paid to 2007. CARRIED.

There being no further business, Mayor Nimmo adjourned the meeting at 9:24 p.m.

Mayor

Manager

**Approved November 23, 2011