

MINUTES OF THE NINETEENTH REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF GIBBONS HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2011

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

Staff Present: Henry Taylor, Town Manager, Debbie Turner, Assistant Town Manager, Kelly Taylor, Community Services Director, Laura Schmidt, Community Services Program Coordinator and Chris Sutherland, Recording Secretary

Guests: Sturgeon Historical Society Members, Communities in Bloom Members, Don McGeachy, CRNWSC and Steve Brittain, Select Engineering

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Councillor Fraser advised that Item 8.4 should read December 28th.

11/211 Councillor Fraser moved that the agenda be adopted as amended. CARRIED.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting – November 9, 2011

11/212 Councillor Wyatt moved that the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on November 9, 2011 be adopted as presented. CARRIED.

ACCOUNTS

1. Accounts

11/213 Mayor Nimmo moved the total of the accounts in the amount of \$371,296.61 be ordered paid. CARRIED.

2. Monthly Statement – September 2011

11/214 Councillor Rollison moved to approve the monthly statement for September 2011 as presented. CARRIED.

APPOINTMENTS

1. Neil Jamieson

Councillor Horner advised that Mr. Jamieson was out of town and unable to attend.

2. Laura Schmidt – New Community Services Program Coordinator

Mr. Taylor introduced Laura Schmidt as the new Community Services Program Coordinator. Laura has been hired on a temporary position until December 31, 2011.

3. Sturgeon River Historical Society – Pioneer Days

Kelly Taylor and Mr. Earl Briggs spoke on behalf of the Sturgeon River Historical Society. Kelly explained that a meeting was held in November with the Sturgeon River Historic Society to discuss the possibilities of reinstating the Gibbons Pioneer Days as a possible solution to the decline in attendance of Canada Day. The Historical Society expressed their interest in partnering with this event.

Hosting an event like this meets the Gibbons Municipal Sustainability Plan of Social and Cultural sustainability recommendations of:

- S2.1 Gibbons is a community “rooted in family” and provides services that strengthen the family unit.
- S3.1 Gibbons benefits from a wide variety of both local and regional services offered by strong community organizations that work together to support mutual interests.

It was stated very clearly that the intention is not to ignore Canada Day, as this is an important day to recognize. The proposed events for Canada Day would be:

- Breakfast- organized by the Seniors’ Twilight Club
- Flag Raising at the Town Office
- Canada Birthday cake served at the Town Office

- Busses will make runs from the Town Office to CFB Edmonton so that our community may enjoy continued events at a larger venue.

The proposed Pioneer Day would be held every year on the third weekend in July- July 20-22, 2012. This date does not conflict with Bon Accord's Harvest Days or Redwater's Discovery Days, both of which are held in August. It is the intention to collaborate with other organizations in Gibbons to "lighten the load" of planning an event of this size. The central location for the events would be at the Museum with the proposed events as follows:

- Ball Tournament
- Pioneer Parade
- Breakfast
- Antiques Tractor/Auto Show and Shine
- Family Barn Dance
- Pioneer themed games and crafts
- Old fashioned picnic
- Gibbons Historic Amazing Race or Historic Geocaching

11/215

Councillor Wyatt moved to approve the Community Services Board's recommendation to down-size the Canada Day events of 2012 and reinstate Pioneer Days to be held the third Saturday of July. CARRIED.

Mr. Briggs and members of the Sturgeon River Historical Society left the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

4. Communities In Bloom Presentation

Mrs. Lore Grant along with other members of the Communities in Bloom Committee attended the council meeting. Mrs. Grant advised that she was very excited to be representing the CIB Committee. The town has come a long way over the past few years with the cooperation and support of Council and she hope that it continues. Mrs. Grant then presented Mayor Nimmo and Council with the 2011 Communities in Bloom certificate of Five Blooms in the International Competition.

Mrs. Grant and members of the Communities in Bloom left the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

5. Don McGeachy, Chair - Capital Region Northeast Water Commission

Mr. McGeachy attended to discuss the proposed CRNWSC Heartland Regional Waterline and how it will affect the 2012 water rates. He also presented the project schedule and financing plan.

Don McGeachy left the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

6. Steve Brittain, Select Engineering – Homestead

Mr. Brittain attended Council on behalf of Homestead Land Development Ltd. He asked council to consider the rezoning of Stage 1B and rezoning of the land for the offsite drainage and the drainage pond to Semi-Public. Homestead is prepared to have 50% of Stage 1A finished before starting 1B. Council was concerned about the width of the road in front of the school and asked administration to investigate options. Homestead will make application for rezoning.

Steve Britain left the meeting at 8:28 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Request for Proposal – Gibbons Cultural Centre

Mr. Taylor advised Council that the RFP was developed by the Cultural Centre Committee and has been edited by our lawyer and has now been sent to the engineer for review. Once this is complete it will be brought back to Council for approval and then sent out through a couple of different contractor data bases.

2. Gibbons Cultural Centre Funding

Councillor Wyatt moved to approve the following resolution as presented by Administration:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Gibbons is committed to the construction of the Gibbons Cultural Centre provided sufficient financial support can be obtained to fund the project so as not to unduly burden the tax payers of the town.

FURTHER the Town is prepared to contribute the value of the Land on which the facility is to be built.

FURTHER should adequate funding for the full amount of the project not be obtained the Town is prepared to secure debt financing to a maximum of One Million dollars (\$1,000,000) provided that this amount does not exceed the Town's debt limit AND that Council deems it prudent to secure the debt at the time the funds may be required.

11/216 CARRIED.

3. AB Municipal Affairs - 2011 Conditional Operating Funding MSI

This item was received for information.

4. December 28th Council Meeting

11/217 Councillor Fraser moved to cancel the December 28th Council meeting unless a meeting needs to be called by the Chair or Council. CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

1. APEGGA - Annual Christmas Reception

This item was received for information.

2. 2012 Budget

Mayor Nimmo felt he was willing to pass the interim budget with the provision to meet with Bon Accord Council to review a Policing partnership as well as the Business Symposium.

11/218 Councillor Sandahl moved to approve the 2012 Interim Capital Budget as presented by administration. CARRIED.

11/219 Councillor Horner moved to approve the 2012 Interim Operating Budget as presented by administration with the provision to meet with Bon Accord Council to review a policing partnership as well as the Business Symposium. 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

Councillor Fraser felt that the wording in Part 3 – Parking, Item #2 contradicted Item #1. Administration will revise Item #2 and bring the bylaw back to Council for approval.

STAFF REPORTS

1. Public Works Report

Water

Chlorine is at 1.13 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 87%.

Sewer

Industrial Park holding tanks are being emptied every second week. The lift station is running good.

Roads

Potholes are ongoing. All paving is completed. Myself and Bob will be doing a final inspection on the paving this week, as well as a Construction Completion Certificate on Strata 7A. All our winter sand has arrived.

Parks

The lights at the West entrance sign only stay on a short time due to the lack of light to charge the batteries, they will get better as more sunlight is available. The pruning is ongoing through the winter months as time permits. We are starting to put water on the outdoor arena. We will move the change shack to the outdoor arena hopefully in the next couple of weeks.

2. Sustainable Development Report

Oct 6

Workshop on Community volunteering with Ian Hill. It was very inspiring. His foundation works to assist communities to build parks. Kelly is looking at the granting requirements. Bon Accord is looking at maybe bringing him out for next year's business symposium.

Oct 12

Met with Sprung regarding the Cultural Centre. Attended council for Sprung Presentation. Talked with Blain Usenik, from Strata, re-signage on Main Street, we will be going forward with this project shortly. We have decided to hold off on the map sign on Main Street this year as we have not yet agreed on a location.

Oct 13

Budget meeting - also on the 18th, Nov 9 and 15th. Met with Peter Russell regarding building on the lot, across from the town office. They are looking to build to suit the tenant – I have contacted a couple of prospective tenants and got them in touch with Peter. Another prospective tenant stopped into the office for a chat. They are still thinking of building apartments above the commercial. They have been in touch with Riverside Point regarding sales, but are optimistic as they are looking at a different clientele. They are hoping to start something in spring of 2012.

Oct 14

Attended Remax open house

Oct 17

Attended the Alberta Heartland economic development meeting. Finished the budget and 2012 plan for the EDO group. Because of new developments coming on stream, like the Shell Upgrader expansion, AHL is looking at a significant bump in its budget. The EDO team is looking to expand on its advertising of the region.

Oct 20

Sturgeon Economic Development breakfast was much shorter than last year without the interesting speakers, but we did get some networking done.

Oct 21

Met with Hank, Dani and Tim from the business association regarding development in town.

Oct 25

Business Association Executive meeting – the Association's finances are all in order now. Ken Dobush has stepped down and vice-chair Dani Remier has taken over.

Oct 26

Business Association Annual meeting, it was decided to keep the same meeting format for now. At the next meeting they hope to have a financial advisor from one of the banks as a speaker.

Oct 26-27

Critical Incident Management training for emergency situations.

Oct 26

643 Community Advisory meeting, as usual very interesting meeting, was able to talk to the group about all the great things happening in Gibbons.

Nov 2

Cultural Centre fundraising committee meeting, we did a round table discussion with lots of great ideas coming out. Group is working on a terms of reference, and fundraising information.

Nov 3

Took a course on using Statistics Canada community statistics. We were told that the 2011 census information will not even start to roll out until sometime in February.

Nov 4

Met with sprung re RFP

Nov 8

Took a course on grant writing - 10 key elements of fundraising from Metasoft Education. It was well worth the time.

Nov 17

Did a webinar on the Infrastructure Sustainability and the future Build Canada Fund: Update and What's Next? Adam Thompson from the FCM said the Building Canada Fund, the grant

for municipal infrastructure is coming back, the government should roll it out very soon, but they believe the program will be for future money, starting in maybe 2014 or 2015. They also asked all participants what percentage of your municipality's overall budget goes to replace infrastructure (including debt servicing costs). The majority, 36% said 15-25%. This year Debbie estimates we are in the 25-35 present range.

Nov 21

Government of Alberta FOIP Training. Have also just completed the online introduction to FOIP course.

Nov 22

Budget retreat

We have a three new businesses in town Roger Nien will be doing snow removal and yard work, Katharina Seifert is opening Seifert's Medical Massage and Hafiz Malik has converted a home in the old core, by the arena, to sell and repair small appliances under the name of Alcanadian Appliance Service, he hopes to also run a few other business out of the building, so we supplied him with a lead.

Inside Gibbons book – I have delivered booklets to businesses who advertised in it, many have asked for multiple copies to hand out. Out of town businesses who advertised were sent copies and a letter of thanks.

Rewrote the development page for the website and am working on information inserts for the upcoming years' tourism magazines.

Working on developing a business visitation program for the town in the coming year – I hope to meet with store fronts and other businesses to get their take on the Business climate in Gibbons.

11/230

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Curling Club

Councillor Rollison attended. The club is short 1 league in the mixed due to participation shortage.

2. FCSSAA Conference

Councillor Rollison attended and found it quite interesting.

3. CRNWSC

Councillor Horner and Rollison attended. Councillor Horner advised that the Chair and Vice Chair have remained the same as well as the per diem will remain the same as last year.

4. Sturgeon River Agricultural Society

Councillor Rollison attended; they did not reach a quorum so the meeting was rescheduled for early next month. The society needs more members.

5. Budget Meeting

All of Council attended the Budget meeting held on November 22nd.

6. Roseridge Landfill

Deputy Mayor Parsons attended this meeting and advised that there were a lot of new faces.

7. Bon Accord Remembrance Day Services

Councillor Horner attended and laid the wreath on behalf of the Town of Gibbons.

8. Sturgeon School Division

Mayor Nimmo, Deputy Mayor Parsons and Councillors Fraser, Horner, Sandahl and Wyatt attended this meeting.

9. Sturgeon County – Water Well, Healthy Well Symposium

Councillor Horner attended this workshop sponsored by the Highway 2 Conservation.

10. Sturgeon River Historical Society

Councillor Wyatt attended and advised they discussed the proposal for Pioneer Days which was presented to council earlier this evening.

10. Sturgeon Foundation

Councillor Wyatt attended this meeting. They discussed the possibilities of expanding some of the facilities and the possibilities of dealing with individuals with mental health issues.

11. Dew Drop Inn – Remembrance Day Service

Councillors Fraser and Sandahl attended.

12. Sturgeon County Library Management Meeting

Councillor Sandahl attended and advised that a meeting was held to discuss and ask Sturgeon County for an increase per capita. They also took a look at the statistics to see how they can make them work in their favor. He also advised that the Library Managers attend a Library Managers Advisory Council in Elk Point three times a year. He was told that these meetings are very repetitive and most don't get a lot of the meetings. Our Librarian has voiced that with the weather being unpredictable for the winter meetings she does not feel comfortable enough to risk the four hour commute to and from Elk Point in the winter months and will no longer be attending these meetings.

13. CRWMAC

Councillor Fraser attended this meeting where they had a tour of the Evergreen Recycling Plant and found it very interesting.

14. ACRWC

Councillor Fraser attended the ACRWC Organizational meeting. The Chair and Vice Chair have remained the same. Budget passed with a 5% cubic meter increase.

15. CRB

Mayor Nimmo attended this meeting. There was a notice of motion to approve an additional of \$100,000 in 2013 and then again in 2014 for a transit executive position. They transferred moneys from unallocated funds to various projects and campaigns. There was a notice of motion to approve the budget.

16. Saville Junior Curling

Mayor Nimmo attended. This year they had both a male and female championship. It's a good function.

17. Sturgeon Composite High School – Awards Night

Mayor Nimmo attended and presented the 2012 Maisie Metrunc Memorial Scholarship to Christopher Eyben. There was approximately \$200,000 worth of scholarships and bursaries awarded.

There being no further business, Mayor Nimmo adjourned the meeting at 9:27 p.m.

Mayor

Manager

**Approved December 14, 2011