

**TOWN OF SMOKY LAKE
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday November 10, 2009
7:00 p.m.
Town Council Chambers
Smoky Lake, Alberta**

PRESENT: Dave Franchuk Mayor
Nathan Taylor Deputy Mayor
Dave Paches Councillor
John Cherniwchan Councillor
Therese Taschuk Councillor

ADMINISTRATION: Colum Mc Cready CAO

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Franchuk called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

MOTION #411/09 **MOVED** by John Cherniwchan

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the agenda for the Regular Meeting be approved.

CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS

1. Del Huchulak:

A delegation representing Muni-Corr, the Riverland Recreational Trail Society to discuss the proposed construction of a staging area and washroom facility across from the CN Station. This delegation included Del Huchulak, Marianne Price, Sheila Thompson, Robert Bouchard, Maurice Dargis, Walter Sadoway, Brian and Leesa Jones.

Mr. Huchulak presented Council with a drawing of the proposed heated washroom facility, which has a roofline that matches the CN station. Mr. Huchulak also suggested that if the area was developed the Town could possibly extend the parking lot to become a parking area for an RV park with a sewer drop and water fill. He said that at times

the Town needs extra washroom facilities in the downtown area for public functions and the staging area would bring more business into the downtown core. Mr. Huchulak stated that contractors are ready to start on the project and that time is of the essence.

Robert Bouchard the Muni-Corr chair went over Muni-Corr policies in relation to the development. He mentioned that the Iron Horse Trail helps maintain small towns and villages and they would like to see a staging area in every County along the trail. Staging areas provide users with a place to unload, warm up, and access lodging and food. Some other areas have developed large facilities which are good for the community and the businesses in the community.

Sheila Thompson the president for the Riverland Trail Association stated that Elk Point has built a replica of their train station for their staging area. She also reminded Council that Smoky Lake is the “Gateway to the Iron Horse Trail” and a staging area would be a great addition to the Trail. She stated that it is an important project and should be considered and would greatly be appreciated by Trail visitors.

Maurice Dargis from the Mallaig area said people who have ATV’s and snowmobiles need a place to go warm up and have washroom facilities, a guest book is a great plus to get an over all view of where people are from that are using the trail. Maurice thinks Smoky Lake should approve the site that it is a golden opportunity that shouldn’t be ignored. Maurice also stated that if the Town does not approve this they may not get another opportunity like this again due to availability of grant monies.

Brian and Leesa Jones from the Smoky Lake Inn stated that Smoky Lake is lucky to have this opportunity to have this facility built, and the Town business would benefit from the Town visitors. They said that they thought the noise issues from the Trail traffic will be no different than other traffic driving down the street. Brian stated that there has been a substantial increase in traffic since the Trail’s inception and with a heated facility it would bring more people into the Town by providing convenience and comfort for the trail users.

:

2. Dave Campbell, Campbell Ryder Engineering

Town Council had a telephone conference call with Dave Campbell, from Campbell Ryder Engineering. Mr. Campbell

informed the council that other producers are pulling higher volumes of gas and that the town wells are capable of doing the same. It was also discussed that the majority of the Town's costs are internal, and that abandoning the wells (an abandonment would cost in excess of \$100,000/well) would not provide a viable solution to the current problem. Dave Campbell suggested that there are low cost options that can be implemented to increase revenue and build the reserves. Several key points were: production needs to be increased especially in the cold months (changing productions practices), increase the fixed monthly charges from \$10 to \$20 a month (assured income), mitigate the cost of purchased gas, and charge on the flow-through basis. Also noteworthy is that the well has potential for producing a half-a-million gigajoules of gas, due to the well being in one of the best formations in the field. Dave finished by saying the Town needs to manage on a more proactive basis and address the suggestions in small segments, it is possible to become self sustainable.

4. QUESTION PERIOD

No members of the public were present.

**MAYOR Dave Franchuk called a recess at 8:33 p.m.
MAYOR Dave Franchuk called the meeting back to order at 8:29 p.m.**

5. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

MOTION #412/09

MOVED by Councillor Paches

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes of the following meetings be accepted as amended/corrected

- October 21, 2009, Regular Council Meeting
- October 21, 2009, Organizational Meeting
- October 29, 2009, Special Meeting

Motion # 372/09 should read "Paches" instead of Patches

Motion # 375/09 (b) one should read be taken out
Motion #393/09 (d) should read "County" not County Hall.

To add to the Boards and Committees:
Smoky Lake Fire Department Committee: add
Mayor Franchuk & Deputy Mayor Taylor as Alts.
Pumpkin Growers: Councilor Taschuk

CARRIED

6. GENERAL GOVERNANCE SERVICES

a) New Bylaw 014/09: Honorariums

MOTION # 413/09

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Taylor

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that 1st reading be given to Bylaw #014/09, Honorariums Bylaw.

CARRIED

MOTION # 414/09

MOVED by Councillor Taschuk

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that 2nd reading be given to Bylaw #014/09, Honorariums Bylaw.

CARRIED

MOTION # 415/09

MOVED by Councillor Paches

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that permission was asked for 3rd and final reading of Bylaw #014/09, Honorariums Bylaw but this was not accepted

MOTION DENIED

b) Altering Motion numbers 316/09 and 349/09

MOTION # 410/09

MOVED by Councillor Cherniwchan

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that motion number **316/09** be changed to motion number **410/09** “MOVED by Councillor John Cherniwchan, That the agenda for the Regular Meeting be approved with the following amendments, be approved as amended:

- a) Item 6.k FCSS
- b) Item 6.l Youth Centre

c) Item 6.e be moved “On camera” in order to discuss the service Contract. CARRIED”

CARRIED

MOTION # 409/09

MOVED by Councillor Taschuk

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that motion number **349/09** be changed to motion number **409/09** and that a summary of the FCSS expenditures be presented to Council at the next meeting to allow Council to review the accounts and determine project funding.

CARRIED

c) Appointment of Hawkins, EPP, and Dumont as Chartered Accounts for 2010

MOTION # 416/09

MOVED by Councillor Cherniwchan

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that council approve the reappointment of Hawkins, Epp and Dumont as Chartered Accountants for the Town of Smoky Lake for Twelve months with the effective from October 21, 2009.

CARRIED

d) Rural Partnerships Initiative Grant

MOTION # 417/09

MOVED by Councillor Cherniwchan

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Smoky Lake authorizes Smoky Lake County to submit, on behalf of Smoky Lake County, Town of Smoky Lake and the Villages of Vilna and Waskatenau, an Application to Alberta Municipal Affairs’ Regional Partnerships Initiative: Implementation Grant program for the Implementation of Smoky Lake Region Strategic Plan Project; and That Smoky Lake County be designated the managing partner of the Implementation of Smoky Lake Region Strategic Plan Project, for the purposes of applying, receiving, administering, allocating, reporting and accounting for the grant funds on behalf of the partners.

CARRIED

e) Identifying and approving the development of a facility for the Riverland Trail Association

MOTION # 418/09

MOVED by Councillor Taschuk

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Smoky Lake will transfer 1.5 acres of land to North East Muni-Corr for the purpose of developing a staging area; subject to installation of all utilities, provision of surveillance, maintenance and landscaping, this would be subject to agreement of all parties and the necessary permitting processes.

CARRIED

f) Review of Natural Gas Rates and Charges

MOTION # 419/09

MOVED by Councillor Taschuk

That the Town of Smoky Lake will increase the fixed monthly charge for customer gas usage standing charge from \$10.00 to \$20.00, effective January 1, 2010.

CARRIED

g) Gas Recovery Costs

No action taken

h) Appointment of a Manager of Finance

MOTION # 420/09

MOVED by Councillor Chernicwhan

That Council move "In-Camera" at 9:34 p.m.

CARRIED

MOTION # 421/09

MOVED by Councillor Paches

That Council move "Out-of-Camera" at 9:45 p.m.

CARRIED

MOTION #422/09

MOVED by Councillor Paches

That the Town of Smoky Lake approves the appointment of Gunter Wallner to the position of Manger of Finance as ratified by phone call out on Monday November 2, 2009. The appointment is subject to a six month probationary period during which a performance review will be carried out by the CAO based on the latest job description for the position (October 26, 2009)

CARRIED

MOTION #423/09

MOVED by Councillor Paches

That council approves to reimburse the sum of \$2,500.00 relocation expenses for Gunter Wallner. This is considered a debt owing to the Town of Smoky Lake and the Town agrees to forgive the \$2,500.00 reimbursement on the anniversary of his appointment. Mr. Wallner is to provide the Town of Smoky Lake with receipts with regards to all relocation expenses incurred.

CARRIED

7. COUNCIL REPORTS

a) Mayor Dave Franchuk

Oct 22: Strategic Plan for Community Future in St. Paul
Oct 26: Agricultural society meeting (New Years dance planned)
Oct 27: JEDI meeting, executive session
Oct 28: Community Futures meeting in Smoky Lake
Oct 29: Special Council meeting in camera
Oct 30: Agricultural Society Meeting, executive session
Nov 9: Muni-Cor meeting in St.Paul annual Organizational meeting

Mayor Franchuk also attended an annual meeting with the RCMP with Sergeant Petipaw and Inspector Dave Mitchell, the District Operations Officer.

b) Councillor Theresa Taschuk

Oct 29: Special Council meeting
Nov 9: Town Planning Retreat
Nov 9: Pumpkin meeting

c) Councillor Dave Paches

- Oct 29: Special Council meeting
- Nov 3: Pre-Convention Seminar, Managing Municipal Human Resources in an Economic Crisis
- Nov 4: Environment & Sustainability Standing Committee
Small Communities-Bio Energy: Good Business Development
Opening Ceremonies and Keynote Speaker- Brett Wilson
Education Session- Leading the Way in Water Conservation

Trade Show:

- Nov 5: Dialogue with Minister

Session # 1 Minister of Municipal – Danyluk
Minister of Employment – Beaudreau

Session # 2 Minister of Municipal Affairs
Minister of Culture- Blackette
Premier’s Address
Resolution Session
Trade Show
- Nov 6: Breakfast
Convention Evaluation
Election of AUMA Officers
Awards
Resolution Session
Closing Speakers including Cassie Campbell

d) Deputy Mayor Nathan Taylor

- October 27: JEDI meeting – in camera
- October 29: Special Council meeting
- Nov 3- 6: AUMA convention

Pre-convention:

- Contracts
- Educational session – engaging the youth
- Committee report
- The future of local governance
- Redefining membership within the Auma
- Women in Municipal Government

Deputy Mayor Taylor said he made contact with Minister of Municipal Affairs about provincial funding of dispatching services. The Minister gave him the name and number of the minister's assistant and said I should contact their office.

Nov 9- Called into the town planning meeting

Nov 10- town council meeting

e) Councillor John Cherniwchan

October 29: Special Council meeting

Nov 3-6: Committee Reports

Environment & Sustainability Electricity

How to fit a heart attack into your busy schedule

Flu pandemic: Is your Municipality Ready

Dialogue with Ministers

Minister of Health

Minister of Treasury

Minister of Arts and Culture

Minister of Municipal Affairs

Elections

Resolutions

Trade show

Nov 9: Planning meeting Retreat

MOTION # 424/09

MOVED by Councillor Taschuk

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council reports be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

8. ADMINISTRATION REPORT

a) CAO Report

MOTION # 425/09

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Nathan Taylor

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED to accept the CAO report as printed.

CARRIED

9. FINANCIAL REPORT

No report at this time

10. PUBLIC UTILITIES AND GAS

No report at this time

11. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

No report at this time

12. CORRESPONDENCE

a) Golf and Riding Clubs: Letter of Memorandum

MOTION # 426/09

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Taylor

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CAO will prepare options of amending the new leases for the Golf and Riding Club.

CARRIED

- b) Safety Codes Council: increase in assessment levies for 2010
- c) Launch of golf accommodation packages
- d) Alberta Municipal Affairs: MSI update
- e) Identify plaques for donated items at CN Museum- contact Friends of CN.

MOTION # 427/09

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Taylor

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the correspondence be accepted for information.

CARRIED

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION (in Camera)

No in camera session

14. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION # 428/09

MOVED by Mayor Dave Franchuk

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the meeting be adjourned at 10.15 p.m.

CARRIED

Dave Franchuk
Mayor

Colum Mc Cready
CAO