

**Regular Meeting of Council for the
Village of Carmangay,
March 21, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
at the Village Office**

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order 6:00 p.m.

GUESTS None

PRESENT Kym Nichols, Mayor
Sheila Smidt, Deputy Mayor
Stacey Hovde, Councilor
Heather O'Halloran, Administrator
Sue Dahl, Assistant Administrator

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion made by Councillor Stacey Hovde to approve the agenda for March 21, 2017.
Carried

MINUTES

To approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on February 21, 2017.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Sheila Smidt to approve the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held February 21, 2017.

Carried

To approve the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on March 8, 2017.

Motion made by Councillor Stacey Hovde to approve the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on March 8, 2017

Carried

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Still working many ½ days. Year-end water report completed and sent in. Kost was out and did the fire extinguisher testing. Tex was away to Banff last week for his annual water course/seminar. The bay door came off the track again and needed to be re-set. A permanent repair was completed this week which included longer pins and bracing so that issue will be avoided in the future.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

None.

Regular Council Meeting

March 21, 2017

Page 2

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

The office furnace required a new vent motor installed. Total cost with labor was \$594. A visitor to the office was Andrea Hook, constituency outreach assistant of MP, Martin Shields. Told her about key events that take place in Carmangay. Also discussed our frustration with the provincial government in regards to their decision to allocate the funds of the New Building Canada Fund to provincially owned projects as well as directly to the province's deficit. This decision results in \$900 million of lost funding opportunities for municipal infrastructure. This is disappointing as presently Alberta continues to have a \$26 Billion dollar municipal infrastructure deficit. As the Building Canada Fund agreement was signed by the previous federal Conservative government this enables the province to determine which projects will be funded through this envelope.

Dust abatement has been arranged with Vulcan County. We have asked that Pacific Avenue be done from Carman Street to George Street AND Carman Street be done from Grand Avenue to Prairie Avenue as we did have a number of complaints about the dust on Carman Street last year. We will have to pay for the materials required but the County will not charge for the labor or the equipment needed to put the dust abatement chemical down.

We've dealt with some dog issues in the Village (barking and running at large).

The new hydrant at Elmore and Prairie is damaged, DMT Mechanical has been called to repair it. Jessie Chapple from Scase was here for a couple of days to work on the Villages financials.

Started the planning with public works for the landscaping on the boulevards on Elmore Street this spring. Asked to make sure we have enough top soil and decent quality grass seed so work can begin on this by mid-April, weather permitting.

Reminder to Council – communications meeting on March 30 – 6 pm at the Vulcan Lodge Hall. We are in the final stages of compiling the list of properties for the tax arrears list. At this point, there are five properties to go on the list, but that number could come down as the March 31st deadline approaches.

Census questionnaire to go out the week of May 1st with a return date of no later than May 19th. Questionnaire will ask for physical location of residence, # of occupants, age range, gender & emergency contact info of resident. Questionnaires that are returned will be tracked and ones not received will be followed up with a phone call or personal visit to the residence to get the required info.

The village has received their 2017 Property Tax Requisition from the provincial government. The amount owing for this requisition this year is \$47,403.00. The village has also received correspondence from the Provincial Government in regards to the grant amounts that will be available to us this year once our final applications have been submitted.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Approval for accounts payable for February 2017.

Approval of monthly statement for February 2017.

Motion made by Councillor Stacey Hovde to accept the financial reports for February 2017.

Carried

Regular Council Meeting

March 21, 2017

Page 3

NEW BUSINESS

a) EDF Funding – EDF has pledged \$10,000 for permanently mounting the blade. After discussion, council decided they need more time to figure out their options.

b) Blade Questionnaire – discussion held on questionnaire questions. Councillor Hovde requested to look at the contract signed regarding the blade in Oct.2014 prior to drafting questionnaire.

Motion made by Councillor Stacey Hovde to table for further information

Carried.

c) Library Board Member – Judie Dahl has been accepted as the new board member.

Motion made by Councillor Stacey Hovde to accept new board member.

Carried.

d) Tablets & programs – Sheila inquired about councilors getting tablets supplied by Village. MSI operating grant could cover the cost. May consider after the next election.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Sheila Smidt to table until a later date.

Carried.

e) Metercor/Itron Agreement – New water meter reading software is necessary and these agreements must be signed prior to receiving the new software.

Motion made by Councillor Stacey Hovde to sign the agreements.

Carried.

f) Budget Dates – April 4th – 9:30 am
- April 26th – 9:30 am (tentative)

g) Policy Review - #6 – Water and Sewer Installation Policy

Motion made by Councillor Stacey Hovde to approve policy as read.

Carried.

Policy #7 – Tree Replacement and Removal Policy

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Sheila Smidt to approve this policy as read.

Carried.

h) SouthGrow Initiative – SouthGrow has hired a contractor to do an analysis of Broadband. On March 29th, she is coming here. Sheila suggested putting something on the Village Facebook page with a link to the questionnaire and inviting people to the office to meet the contractor and answer questions.

Regular Council Meeting

REPORTS

a) ORRSC

No report

b) MARQUIS

Mark from Munton and Co. – chartered accountants – presented the audit of Marquis Foundation. All financials were presented in the accepted accounting format and all categories were balanced. Open house at Peter Dawson Lodge was March 22. There were many visitors over the 2 hours. Hope is that some of those visitors will want to make PDL their home. Lots of activities organized by Leanne, the resident care coordinator. More policies were reviewed and updated. Suggestions that 2 small rooms be joined together with a door between providing a sitting/sleeping unit for couples or people who want more space and wish to pay extra. Also, 7th month free to new tenants. Longtime residents may object but the response would be that without new residents the rent will need to be increased.

c) VULCAN DISTRICT SOLID WASTE

No report

d) CARMANGAY AND DISTRICT LIBRARY BOARD

Four library trustees attended Southern Alberta Library Conference at the Lethbridge Lodge. The Vulcan County Library Board generously paid all expenses. There were many good training sessions by Muni-Affairs and presentations by libraries sharing their successes for fundraising and increasing memberships. Carmangay Library Board and Staff are busy gathering information for the plan of service required by Muni-Affairs and the Library Act. We should have all the info compiled by April 30th. New board member, Judie Dahl was welcomed by all. Fundraising going on for flooring and help with moving the books. Sheila's meeting in Barons is gathering info. CAO of Barons will suggest to one of their councilors to attend our library meetings. Rita has sent a letter to the Hutterites for funding and for a board member. A motion was made to purchase and plant a Granny Smith apple tree in commemoration of Ruth Smith's passing.

e) SUBDIVISION APPEAL BOARD

Denny And Wendy Johnson mobile home development – March 28 – Sheila recused herself as the Summerland Colony is the appellant in this case.

f) FCSS

Letter from Derek Stamp – Rockyview Benefits – outlining the impact of employee benefits being considered taxable income by Federal Government. He is asking that letters be sent to our MP and Minister of Finance. This could add another \$1300/year to our tax burden. Go to www.don'ttaxmyhealthbenefits.ca Rowan House woman's shelter is actively campaigning for male role models, community leaders, to partner in presentations supporting women who experience domestic violence to create a shift away from abuse and intimidation. Women's Conference at the Lodge Hall on April 21/17 – 9:30am to 3:30pm.

g) HALL BOARD

No report

h) SOUTHGROW

Debrief about the 10 day China trip – the trip was very successful in terms of contacts, interest in Southern Alberta for business and agriculture opportunities and renewable energy. Very good value. Starfield Magrath came away with significant investment dollars. Starfield gave SouthGrow the presentation they made in China. This is new technology for heating greenhouses using thermoenergy. Recognition event cancelled since there were only two applications. Decision was made to award both entries and present their prizes at the AGM June 15/17. Broadband contractors are moving quickly to meet their extended deadline. AG project consulting with farmers, ranchers and industrial facilities for more efficient energy uses is progressing and was fully ramped up March 15 with SouthGrow managing and dispersing funds of \$136,000. Meeting in Claresholm April 6th to update CRTC and Broadband.

i) TWIN VALLEY REGIONAL WATER COMMISSION

No report

j) MAYORS AND REEVES OF SOUTHWEST ALBERTA

No report

k) HISTORICAL SOCIETY

County Historical – have decided to hold the Grange project as the owner has listed the property for sale. Laurie Lyckman is working on the statement of significance for the MLA building. Work is set to restart on the Fire Hall project now that spring is here. An idea was propose to raise some funds... raffle off the “first ring of the bell”... sell tickets and once the bell has been set in place the winner gets to be the first to ring the bell. Another contractor may have been located for future projects who may be more reliable than the one currently used.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Next Regular Council meeting – April 18, 2017 at 6:00 pm

Mayor

Administrator