

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA**

IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2014  
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA MUNICIPAL OFFICE

---

**PRESENT:** Mayor Donald Romanko  
Deputy Mayor Frank Barry  
Councillor Stephen Klassen

Loni Leslie, Chief Administrative Officer

**ABSENT:** Kevin Smith, Public Works  
Earla Wagar, Administration

**GALLERY:** Roy Dyck, C.O.P.S.

**ORDER:** Mayor Romanko called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

**1. AGENDA:**

**Res. 155-14** Councillor Klassen moved the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**2. DELEGATION:**

Mr. Dyck reported that he, on behalf of the Citizens On Patrol Society have been looking after the Trail Washrooms for one year. He has dealt with people sleeping in the washrooms as well as vandalism. Over the summer he painted the floors, repaired leaking toilet tanks in conjunction with the general maintenance and supervision of the facility. He pruned the spruce trees along the north side which seems to have diminished some of the vandalism.

Over the Christmas season he will be closing the washrooms from December 22<sup>nd</sup> until January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

The Society will be having their annual Christmas Social on December 20<sup>th</sup>, at Squirrely's Restaurant.

Roy indicated to Council that he has stepped down from his executive position on the Provincial COPS Board as well as leaving the local Rural Crime Watch organization.

**3. MINUTES:**

a. Regular Meeting, November 17, 2014

**Res. 156-14** Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of November 17, 2014 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

**4. BUSINESS ARISING:**

**5. REPORTS:**

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT and PUBLIC WORKS REPORT**

Presented by CAO Loni Leslie December 15, 2014

- Taxes – 2014 unpaid current- \$46,060.35 (does not include EFT accounts), Prior years owing is \$81,593.96 + Interest of \$40,499.20 for a total of \$168,153.51. This is a decrease of \$11,931.52 collected this month. Work is constantly ongoing to collect these.
- X-Ray – On December 11, 2014 Frank and I attended the Health Advisory Council Meeting in St. Paul and presented our activities regarding the X-Ray machine, since our last presentation to them. They advised that some action has been taken from their end, notably that they had sent our concerns with theirs to the Official Administrator. They were disappointed that we have received no definitive answer to our request.

- On December 11, 2014 (just prior to the Health Advisory Council Meeting) AHS requested that Mayor Romanko, Deputy Mayor Barry and I attend a telephone conference with 4-5 AHS Directors regarding the Health Centre and X-Ray.
- Utility Billing - We are much closer to being satisfied with the method used to produce the Utility billing. Readings will continue to be done manually.
- Lift Station – We met with Associated Engineering to go over requirements for the lift station upgrades. We will be meeting soon to go over preliminary estimates and drawings, but not likely until the new year. Also, we need to secure grant funding.
- I joined the County at the AAMDC convention to talk to Grants people from Alberta Municipal Affairs. I have a better understanding of the limitations of the available grants. I was also able to put forth our serious concerns about the cuts to MSI operating funding, and that the cuts also affect community groups reliance on some of that funding (such as Libraries and Ag societies). A letter has been sent to the Minister under the Mayor's signature expressing more clearly the frustrations we are dealing with regarding this topic.
- As directed by the Joint Municipalities Committee, the Administrators of the four municipalities are holding a meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am at the County offices to discuss the Fire Committee Terms of Reference.
- The budget this year will present problems unless we receive some MSI funding. There is no announcement as yet as to what, if anything we will receive. 2013 funding was approximately \$70,000, 2014 was cut to approximately \$40,000.
- ATCO Electric is proposing that we sell our existing poles to them for \$12,700.80. There is a downside to this in that it will cost an additional \$305.20 per month for the streetlights. The upside is that if anything happens to any of those particular poles, or lights hardware, we would not have to pay for it, this would then be ATCO's responsibility. Replacement of a pole and light would be approximately \$9,000.00 to \$13,000.00 depending on the location of the pole, the reason for replacement and timing (e.g. overtime)
- Kevin has all of the streets cleared of snow; Carmen opened driveways and completed the senior's driveways. No matter how quickly, or what streets are done first, people still have a tendency to complain. If there is another large snowfall like the one we had two weeks ago, we will have some difficulty with where to put it.
- Kevin has passed his Small Systems Water and Wastewater exam and is now certified to operate our system without supervision. He will be required to complete 1.2 education credits (usually 12 hours) each year to keep up his certification.

#### **MAYOR ROMANKO'S REPORT**

##### **HUB MEETING, November 27, 2014 – St. Paul**

- REDA (Regional Economic Development Alliances) met to discuss applications for Advanced Educational Grant of \$100 000. Template was needed for grant, all adopted HUB's.
- Rural Alberta Business Centre now permanent.
- Capped fee for larger communities at \$ 10 000, to entice Lloydminster to join.
- Heard presentation on Canada—Alberta Job Grant.
- HUB is developing new website, shown example, very easy to access all communities. Profiles are to be updated locally, but warned everyone must keep individual websites up to date.
- Our website was complemented by web designer for its easy access.
- Next meeting January 29, meeting with MLAs.

#### **SMOKY LAKE FOUNDATION Organizational Meeting, Dec. 2**

- No changes in board membership or committees. Eliminated a number of unnecessary committees.
- Foundation Regular Meeting, Dec. 2
- Vilna Lodge and Villa are at capacity, with a waiting list of 4 or 5 applications.
- Vilna Lodge and Villa had two government inspections, passed both with flying colors, even though they were rated at a higher rate of services (rated at 4 even though only offer 3 level)
- Waiting to find out if sprinklers will be installed in Lodge and Manor under new grant.
- Tenant in Harmony Manor removed because of certain activities.
- Bar V Nook has 4 vacancies.
- One vacancy in self- contained unit so it is being redone.
- Waskatenau has 4 vacancies but two will be filled in the new year.
- Short staffed in office, both ladies have resigned.
- Budget presented and approved.
- Requisitions will be reduced by approximately \$100 000.
- Meeting with Seniors and Health Ministers on December 9 to discuss replacement of BarVNook
- Next Meeting January 19.

#### **SMOKY LAKE FOUNDATION Project Meeting, Dec. 3**

- Construction at about 62%.
- Received 40% of ASLI grant in November.
- Making interest payments on money advanced on mortgage.
- No new change orders.
- Discussed possible replacement of old section of BarVNook because of meeting with Seniors and Health Ministers on Dec. 9.
  - Next meeting January 15, at 1:00 p.m.

#### **DEPUTY MAYOR BARRY'S REPORT**

##### **Highway 28/63 Regional Water Commission Dec /14**

###### Organization Meeting

- Chair: Dareld Cholak
- Vice Chair: Don Romanko
- Commission Manager: Cory Ollikka
- Kept same engineers, legal service, bank, auditors, & remuneration.

###### Regular Meeting

- St. Paul delegation was in attendance -wish to use our water line to transport water to Ashmont and Lottie Lake and later Maillaig.
- Already have partial approval ---have made application to Transportation.
- We can not use our surplus for this project.
- Need to negotiate an agreement with us for transmission and with Capital Region to buy water.
- Thorhild will not provide management or financial services but will help to make the transition as easy as possible.
- Need to change agreement with Capital region - increase supply to 70m<sup>3</sup>/hr.
- Expect to close out books on Phase 2 within month or so.
- Had problems with CVA near #36, in attempts to reach the contractor for information, it was determined that the company had been sold. We are in contact with new owner.
- Project coming in at about 1 million under budget.
- Letter to be sent to "In-Line Contracting", giving an ultimatum to fix deficiencies by June 15<sup>th</sup> or contract will be cancelled.
- Water rate will be going up in Jan or Feb.

##### **RCDC Dec/14**

- Chair Cary Smigerowsky
- Vice Chair Pat Palechuk
- Approved job description for CEDO (Development Officer) and contract.
- No money to be requisitioned for 2014.

- Discussed grant application.
- Point out grant could be highly dependent on what is happening to oil prices.
- Difference between numbers in grant app. And budget includes in-kind.
- May need to hire managers/consultants for some of proposal –beyond our expertise.
- Councils are to adopt the Protocol agreement.
- Decide to purchase full page ad in Kalyna Country Magazine.
- Pat P presented a copy of Smoky Lake’s presentation to the Rural Health group.

## **COUNCILLOR KLASSEN’S REPORTS**

### **MUNI-CORR Meeting December 8, 2014**

- The memorandum of agreement has been sent to Johnston Construction for signing. We are expecting a copy within the week. They are currently preparing a work schedule but are confident on beating the spring ban.
- A meeting is scheduled for a delegation from Muni-Corr to talk with the Minister for Culture and Tourism, Maureen Kubinec in regards to the remainder of the funding for the trestle rebuild. As Marianne is currently in Mexico, there was a discussion over her being present at this meeting. She has asked the board for approval to pay for her return flight to Edmonton and back to Mexico when completed. It was deemed vital for her to be present so a motion was passed to pay up to \$1,000 for her return flight. Marianne will be responsible for all other expenses.
- A Motion was passed to approve a request from an individual to sell produce grown on Muni-Corr property in St. Paul. She will not be selling on site and has no plans to expand her garden. She does keep the property clean and attractive and the delegate from St. Paul had no objection.
- Trail Dogs Canada Inc. will be hosting a “teach your dog to pull clinic” on January 10, 2015 in Smoky Lake.
- A deadline of December 31<sup>st</sup> was amended to the offer to purchase for a property in Cold Lake. The buyer although initially was eager for the deal has now been reluctant to finalize the purchase. It was felt, to avoid problems, if another buyer were to present itself a deadline was needed.
- A motion was made and passed to agree to the terms set forth by the Town of St. Paul in regards to purchasing a couple parcels of property. The price the Town offered was below our assessed value but not by much and the amount spent by the Town on the staging area was deemed as fair trade.
- Next meeting January 12, 2015

### **VILNA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY Meeting December 8, 2014**

- We received notice from the AGLC of our next Casino date to be set within the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of 2015.
- A motion was passed to agree to a \$500 sponsorship of the Farm Conference happening on March 15, 2015.
- The Curling Club will be taking care of the curling ice this year.
- \$8,000 - \$12,000 will be needed to replace lights with the new LED ones.
- Upcoming events include the Fireman’s Ball on Jan 31, 2015 and Curling Supper on Feb 14, 2015.
- Edmonton Northlands has sent an offer to all Ag Societies in order for them to sell tickets for Northlands events in Edmonton. Each of the societies would be able to make some money in return for their sales.
- Charlie discussed a couple meeting workshops. “Writing By-Laws” on Apr 9, 2015 and “Effective Meetings” on March 26, 2015.
- Next Meeting (and AGM) January 5, 2015 @ 7 p.m.

**Res 157-14**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the reports be accepted for information.

CARRIED

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a) 2015 Interim Budget**

Administration presented Council with a report indicating a summary of the 2014 budget vs. actual revenues and expenditures. Not all of the operating grant information was available to complete the 2015 Operating Budget, so Council was asked to

pass an interim budget equal to the 2014 Budget. The 2015 Operating Budget will be brought forward no later than the February , 2015 meeting.

**Res. 158-14** Moved by Mayor Romanko that Council approve an interim 2015 Budget equal to the 2014 Operating Budget.

CARRIED

Mayor Romanko called for a brief break at 8:00 p.m. reconvening at 8:10 p.m.

**7. BYLAWS & POLICIES**

**8. FINANCIAL REPORT:**

**a) Expenditures**

**Res. 159-14** Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the expenditures totaling \$38,031.85 through payment of cheques #12347 – 12379 in the amount of \$26,576.14; and direct deposits and payroll for the months of November to December 15, in the amount of \$11,455.71 be accepted for information.

CARRIED

**9. CORRESPONDENCE:**

- a. Brian Storseth, MP, re: Federal Summer Employment Program
- b. Alberta Health Services, re: EMS
- c. Municipal Planning Services, re: Christmas Letter
- d. HELP International, re: Shelterbelt Trees
- e. Ports-to-Plains, re: Membership
- f. ATCO Electric, re: Termination of Meter Reading Contract

**Res. 160-14** Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the correspondence be accepted for information.

CARRIED

**10. "IN CAMERA"**

**11. NEXT MEETING:**

- a) Regular Council – January 19, 2015

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Res. 161-14** Mayor Romanko adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

CARRIED

---

Donald Romanko, Mayor

---

Loni Leslie, CAO