

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2015
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA MUNICIPAL OFFICE

PRESENT: Mayor Donald Romanko
Deputy Mayor Frank Barry

Loni Leslie, Chief Administrative Officer
Earla Wagar, Administration

ABSENT: Councillor Stephen Klassen
Kevin Smith, Public Works

GALLERY:

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

1. AGENDA:

Res. 018-15 Deputy Mayor Barry moved the agenda be adopted as presented.
CARRIED

2. DELEGATION:

The Library Manager, Roxane Loberg forwarded a letter to Council explaining the Libraries activities, as follows:

- February 12, 2015
 - I have been with the library 6 years now and have seen many changes since I have been here.
 - The Vilna library used to be a place where you went to look for, order or pick up books. It now has become the center of the Village of Vilna in that we are doing so much more than books. I am sorry, but I will have to give you some stats so that you understand how valuable the library is to our Village, community and to the county.
 - From Jan 7th to May 22, 2014 the library had 42 classes visit during the Reading Program. The reading program shuts down during the month of June due to tests, exams and all the year-end things happening at the school. The reading program continues from Nov to Dec 2014. During that time there will be another 20 classes visiting the library for the reading program for a total of 62 class visits in the year of 2014. The classes that came were ECS, grade 1/2 split, grade 2/3 split, grade 4, 5 and 6 including the outreach students. This year the number of students in those classes alone was 107.

- We have a target market of grade 7 to 12 with short-term programming. We are hoping to be able to work those grades in this year depending on finances of course.
- Our seniors lodge has 41 residents and 27 staff. Last year, to make it easier for the residents we sold the lodge a business library membership. The library then purchased a movie broadcast site license for the lodge to enable them to watch unlimited movies as a group, legally.
- The library staffers have participated in a Certificate of Completion for the Northeast Region - Seniors Service Provider workshops. This two day affair, one in March of 2013 and one in September of 2014, were to train staff about government seniors grant information and application forms knowledge so as to help with filling out of the forms; as these forms are often confusing for seniors. FOIP training was also given.
- Vilna Library, in collaboration with Vilna FCSS, has launched a senior's stay at home longer, non-profit cleaning service called Helping Hands. We hope to extend this to County senior citizens very soon also, as we have applied for \$3000.00 FCSS funding from Smoky Lake County (application submitted in January 2015).
- The Vilna Library has been awarded the Senior's New Horizons Grant (\$25,000.) which we have called "Reach Teach and Mobilize". This grant will help us in three ways:
 - To find and reach out to the seniors in our Village and County.
 - To help eliminate isolation of senior citizens (by teaching social network media and basic computer skills)
 - Help train (basic public speaking skills) seniors to share their travel experiences: the good, bad and the ugly about some travel destinations, dos and don'ts and hotspots
- The intent is to have seniors feeling valuable and useful in our communities and society again (where some feel they are no longer useful/valued/important). We have already contracted with the school to use high school students to help teach the seniors computer social network media skills classes, so these will be one on one interactive learning sessions. The bonus is the students interact with the seniors and the seniors interact with the youth. So we are going inter-generational! Everyone wins.
- The library hosts a reading corner for the younger children at the Spooktacular breakfast for the community.
- The library helps at the Christmas craft sale to raise money for the grade 12 grad class. We help with pictures taken with Santa and Frosty the Snow Girl. The Snow Girl is our librarian.
- The library hosts senior learning/teaching events about what is available for grants/funding for seniors.

- The library hosts an Edmonton based comic book store for two days to come teach and show grades 7 to 12 choices for artistic based career options.
- The library helps raise money for COPS of Vilna to patrol the streets and keep them safe.
- The library helps raise money for the new x ray machine needed in the Vilna Doctors office.
- The library has chosen to accept donations for the food bank instead of fines.
- The library hosts an annual Summer Reading Program entertainer. They teach, read, sing and just have fun with the children and parents.
- The library hosts at least one winter reading contest with good prizes for children and adults.
- The library strives to have a student volunteer that we teach proper work ethics too.
- The library strives to have a variety of volunteers for different occasions and projects.
- The library strives to attend the Vilna parade with give-away candy to promote the Vilna library.
- The library has hosted an "Adopt a book" program to enhance our book buying ability for a wider selection of borrows and loans.
- Whenever the library has an event, we advertise in the local newspaper to keep people abreast of what the local library is doing.
- The library has hosted 2 cultural days by showcasing local artistry.
- The library sets up displays in collaboration with the celebration of Literacy Days that Vilna school holds, with door prizes.
- Our Outreach school is basically the non-academic students from Vilna school. The teacher has them involved in the community by calling them our "Snow Angles". Anyone, especially seniors, by calling the library, village office or school can have the sidewalk or driveway shoveled. The library purchased 2 shovels and donated them to the school. We also received 2 more shovels which were then donated to the school. The library purchased toques, gloves and scarves for all the Outreach students. The library was given 6 outside heavy jackets which we also donated to the Outreach students so they wouldn't have to use the teachers clothing.
- The library already collaborates with the Village Office, Vilna School, Vilna Ag Society, Vilna Seniors Lodge and Vilna Outreach school program.
- We have also applied for a Seniors Week Provincial grant. We will host a one day workshop for seniors including demonstrations, and various speakers/topics such as:
- Regional Advisor of Policy Development and Community Partnerships for advice regarding government programs, the RCMP

to speak on senior safety, a senior’s Event Coordinator to share senior healthy exercise programs etc....

- We don’t have much money- as a matter of fact some of our money has dried up: our computer replacement fund-gone, MSI money gone, but we stretch every penny and ounce of strength and heart to the max.
- So you see, we aren’t just a little rural library trying to move books, but a library very much concerned and invested in the people’s lives of our community and county.
 Roxanne Loberg, Vilna & District Municipal Library Manager.

3. MINUTES:

- a. Regular Meeting, January 26, 2015

Res. 019-15

Moved by Mayor Romanko that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council of January 26, 2015 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING:

5. REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATION REPORT and PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

**Presented by CAO Loni Leslie
2015**

January 26,

- Taxes – As of January 1, 2015 all tax accounts are in arrears status. The amount owing to the Village for taxes is now \$138,392.96. This amount does not include EFT payers or Village owned property obtained by tax recovery. A large arrears of over \$17,000.00 was collected last week.
- The auditors will be attending the office for two days this week and that will complete the 2014 financial year.
- The January/February Billing for Utilities will be sent before March 15th.
- Lift Station – Alberta Transportation has told us they will not be granting us funds this year. We will have to use MSI Capital and any other grant funding we can get. Hopefully, we can get some assistance with grant applications from Associated Engineering.
- The Canada Revenue agency has paid approximately \$23,000.00 GST owing to us. There are still amounts owing

to us for 2013. Also, we have yet to file the 2014 Return and Rebate.

- Invoices for work done for ratepayers/landowners by Danyluk Landscaping have been invoiced. Letters will have to be done to accompany each one. These invoices total \$36,636.91. The Danyluk invoices I have to date total \$58,188.39. Another one for the lift station is yet to come.
- On March 3, 2015 I have been requested to meet with the Staff Sgt. Craig O'Neill to complete a questionnaire regarding K Division.
- On March 2, 2015 I will need as many of Council as possible to meet with Smoky Lake Council and Scott Franchuk regarding the Fire Services Agreement to finalize discussion on the renewal. This agreement deals with cost-sharing for the Fire Department, Hall, Utilities etc. This meeting will be held at our offices at 4:30pm before the Joint Muni Meeting. FYI Joint Muni will be held at Carmen's Perogies Restaurant.
- Two new regional bylaws will be coming up (in draft format currently). One is the "Regional Emergency Management Region" bylaw (The Emergency Management Act requires it) This bylaw is not ready to pass, but I have provided a Draft for your information and input. The Village has Bylaw #457-07 would be repealed and replaced with this one to include the Regional Director of Emergency Management and the responsibility for the Regional Emergency Management Plan.

The other bylaw that Council will soon be considering is the Regional Fire Services Committee Bylaw that the administrators were directed to produce for the next Joint Municipalities and is on the meeting agenda for March 2. I have shared this draft with the Vilna Fire Chief and Deputy Chief and they are satisfied with it.

MAYOR ROMANKO'S REPORT

HUB Meeting, Jan. 29, 2015 Vegreville

- Budget will be about \$160 000. Shortfall from industry membership RJV Vegreville . Base funding from Innovation and Advanced Education up in the air.
- Minburn County was accepted as member of HUB. Flagstaff County was not accepted. Thorhild and Athabasca Counties

are under discussion as they are connectively and economically similar.

- Request for funding for Labour Shortage Study was turned down because we are not a lobby group and may jeopardize government funding, so it could only be supported in principle.
- Agenda provided for Ports to Plains conference in Vermillion on Mar. 4 & 5.
- Bob reported on: Rural Alberta Business Centers—if no funding then we're looking at Plan B, Human Services providing training for Disabilities—verbal commitment for 2 years, Transportation Study waiting, Work Force Partnership—moving forward, Eastern Alberta Trade Corridor on Phase 5.
- MLA's Report
- Priorities Highways—looking for at least passing lanes between Gibbons and Bonneville.

28/63 Water Commission, Feb. 5, 2015 Thorhild

- Most of the meeting was about supplying water to Ashmont and Lottie Lake. Need to amend agreement with CRNWSC so we can sell water to St. Paul County, have enough supply until 2020 when Mallaig may be added (could be supplied from Cold Lake because in a different water region-Beaver River).
- Cory: -Capital Regional Agreement being looked at, transition and training has begun for Smoky Lake County take over.
- Joyce: -Right of Way in Redwater agreed to, Phase II deficiencies discussed and will be dealt with in spring, some technical issues in Vilna, Bellis and Egremont, programming 2 lap tops.
- Financial:- finalized invoices coming in, Phase II wrapped up, Phase III about 95% complete.
- CRNWSC agreement to supply St. Paul will be given to Brownlee and be brought back to Board.

Foundation Project Meeting, Feb 12

- Furniture Issues—concerns about need to tender furniture and architect's concern about stacking chairs.
- Signage at the design stage.

- Change orders very low about 1.32%, usually 5 to 10 %.
- Decided to stick build 6x10 shed for storage.
- Financial Cash Flow on hand \$2 160 830.39, working on getting interest on account.
- Fund raising about \$40 000.
- Building 72% complete, concern that CCI punctured roof for internet –voids roof warranty, will be dealt with.
- AHS Dashboards completed, Operating Agreement needs agreement from AHS.
- Transition Meeting on Feb 25 from 2-5:00pm at Provincial Building.
- Replacement of BarVNook original, funding in place for study under Lodge Renewal. MLA meeting set up.

Foundation Meeting, Feb 18, 2015

- Postponed because no financials for this period.

DEPUTY MAYOR BARRY'S REPORT

Evergreen Waste Management Feb.11/15

- Presentation by Municipal Affairs re Cooperation grant and commissions in general
- Willing to work with us to help resolve issue with Town of St. Paul -will meet with them and later with us
- Looking into interest rate on deposit
- Web page up and running
- Motion not to accept any more asbestos
- Letter to be sent to Waskatenau. re the lack of representation
- Staff are to receive a 2% increase –same as county of St. Paul.
- Employees ask to switch from hourly to salary - looking into it
- Slowdown in #of loads being received
- Looking into recycling plastics
- K&K recycling metals will only pick up from larger sites – price down – charge to pick up from smaller sites (\$55.00 tonne) -have to look at terms of contract

RCDC Feb.17/15

Shaun Green (CEDO) presented a monthly update as to what he has done and is planning to do within the next month

- attend Edmonton Boat and Sportsman Show March 12-15,
- work on Economic Development package

- begin business visitation program and continue familiarization with area process
 - prepare presentation to Smoky Chamber of Commerce AGM
 - recommendation that drop Fort Mac Trade Show and reallocate funds to get the best bang for our buck passed
 - present draft news release form
 - planning to hold a "Meet and Greet" "Open House" March 19 place to be decided
- Cory reported no news re Partnership Development grant --- could be cut completely or amount reduced

Discussion held on what can be done to promote economic development

- Lots of oil and gas in area but of heavy variety –difficult to extract so have to look at other options
- Work on tourism - point out it costs municipality with no return to it –local businesses benefit not municipal govt.
- Agro-business
- Question --how do we get to move here?

Alberta Transportation has indicated that they are proposing making Highways 831 & 28 corner a 4 way stop. RCMP have been asked to increase police coverage at corner. It was reported that Redwater and Boyle traffic units are stepping up speed enforcement between #63 and #36.

COUNCILLOR KLASSEN'S REPORTS

Vilna Library Meeting February 11, 2015

- The Library year-end preparations are complete. So far the stats for this year has the usage of the library up considerably from last year.
- The bookkeeper has had a baby so she is now unable to do the books for the library anymore. Roxanne has been doing the books in the stead. She has also updated the website with new pictures and info. A new web annalist has volunteered his time to help with the website. Thomas has done some work fixing a few errors getting the website up and running and looking better.
- Roxanne has filled out an application for a \$7,500 grant for senior's week provincial launch. She also applied for \$3,000 of FCSS monies from the County to assist with the Helping Hands program.
- Some really great news is that we received the New Horizons grant of \$25,000. This will help put on free programs to help seniors by teaching them things like computers, social media,

internet safety and public speaking. Brian Storseth was in Vilna on February 20th to present the awarded grant.

Res 020-15 Moved by Mayor Romanko that the reports be accepted for information.

CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS

a) Vilna Housing Development Corporation

The Vilna Housing Corporation has been inactive for at least 9 years. There is a small bank account of \$5,740.01. It appears that the corporation had two shareholders, 1 being the Village of Vilna and 1 being held by Twila Petrushka, as a trustee of the Village. The documents indicate that the share owned by Twila is held in trust for the Village, not for her personal gain. Because the account has been inactive for several years it is considered struck.

Res. 021-15 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that Administration be directed to proceed with the “Winding Up” of the corporation and closing of the bank account, with proceeds being transferred to the Village.

CARRIED

7. BYLAWS & POLICIES

a) Bylaw 512-15 Regional Emergency Management Region

The municipalities of the Smoky Lake region have shown an interest in in forming an emergency management region, whereby a Regional Emergency Management Plan will be developed with Smoky Lake County acting as the managing partner.

Council reviewed a draft of the proposed bylaw.

Res. 022-15 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the proposed Bylaw #512-15 be tabled for further consideration.

CARRIED

8. FINANCIAL REPORT:

a) Expenditures

Res. 023-15 Moved by Mayor Romanko that the expenditures to February 18, 2015 totaling \$65,459.38 through payment of cheques #12410 – 12431 in the amount of \$37,297.25 and direct deposits and payroll to January 31, 2015, in the amount of \$28,162.13 be accepted for information.

CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

- a. Minister of Municipal Affairs, re: MSI program
- b. Aspen View Public Schools, re: Invitation to Board Meeting
- c. Northern Lights Library, re: 2015 Requisition
- d. FracNotice Team, Re: Abandoned Well Program
- e. NE MuniCorr, Re: Lakeland Outdoor Recreation Group
- f. Smoky Lake Signal, re: Library Activities
- g. Alberta’s Lakeland, re: Tourism Collaboration Meeting
- h. Lakeland Catholic Schools, Re: Cancel Trustees Retreat
- i. Alberta Emergency Measures, Re: Courses
- j. Alberta Municipal Services Corp., Re; 2015 Insurance
- k. Kalyna Country, re: Ukrainian Village tour

Res. 024-15 Moved by Mayor Romanko that the correspondence be accepted for information.

CARRIED

10. “IN CAMERA”

11. NEXT MEETING:

- a) Regular Council – March 23, 2015

12. ADJOURNMENT:

Res. 025-14 Mayor Romanko adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

CARRIED

Donald Romanko, Mayor

Loni Leslie, CAO