

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD ON MONDAY OCTOBER 28, 2013
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
Earla Wagar, Administration
Kevin Smith, Public Works

ABSENT:

GALLERY:

ORDER: Mayor Romanko called the meeting to order at 8:45 P.M.

1. AGENDA:

CAO Leslie asked that two pieces of correspondence be added to the agenda:

9.n. James Gerrior, re: offer to paint street garbage containers.

9.o. John & Delores McCormack, re: repair water c.c.

Res. 157-13 Deputy Mayor Barry moved the agenda be adopted as amended. CARRIED

2. DELEGATION:

3. MINUTES:

a. Regular Council Meeting September 16, 2013

Res. 158-13 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of September 16, 2013 be adopted as presented. CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING:

5. REPORTS:

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT
Presented by Loni Leslie**

- Taxes: Total *current* taxes owing as of October 17 are \$46,137.68 (\$51,245.29 last month). Arrears owing are \$89,331.56 plus Interest/Penalties of \$39,334.54.25. Still making progress. 7 properties are due for tax sale (32,498.09 of the arrears total). I believe that of these 7 – 3 more will make arrangement agreements with the Village for payment.
- We continue to rack up hours that we can ill afford dealing with the Petersen civil law suit. Even though the lawyer is doing the processing, there are still many hours involved in it. Court was held on Monday October 21, 2013 where our first presentation to the court was heard. The case against the Village was summarily dismissed. Earla and I along with Councillor Farmer attended.

- The iron levels in the reservoir were within acceptable limits for the month of September and so far in October.
- We now have a quote for \$31,400.00 to repair the roof area of the reservoir. We will be applying for grant funding for this. Once the mechanical connections for the regional water line are complete, we will begin repairs.
- I met with the engineers with Associated Engineering October 16th. The mechanical connection for the regional water line is nearly completed. The tower for the transmission of data from Vilna to Epcor is not yet done, partly due to our request to relocate the tower from its planned location to a location away from our underground lines. The original location was within 3 feet of the well intake water line.
- Smoky Lake has turned on their regional water supply as of October 16th.
- The Hope Community Church has again said they are interested in purchasing the Grand Hall lot.
- My work on the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan required by Alberta Transportation is completed, as we need this in order to access money to fund the rebuild of 49th Avenue, 49th Street and 49 A Avenue and major repairs to several other areas in town (the quote was \$241,000.00, we paid less than \$3000. for the mix and delivery, then add labour). Kevin and helper will be repairing all potholes, water break areas, etc. with cold mix. This will save us a large amount of money and future damage to some of these areas. This grant can only be used for projects approved by Alberta Transportation. There are also a couple of other grants, such as the Municipal Demonstration Grant from Alberta Recycling Management Authority may also be available, but is a 50/50 split grant.
- The lagoon release is scheduled for October 18th.
- The developer with whom we met in September has inquired as to the possibility of purchasing our 3.6 acre parcel on 49th Avenue. Any sale of this land should include a codicil requiring development in the agreement. This is about as far as it has gone up to now.
- The October billing is due to be going out the first week of November.
- The ATCO Franchise fee is anticipated to be approximately 59,000.00 for 2014.
- Our electrical rate agreement through AMSC will expire December 31. Negotiations for rates are occurring now.
- The Road Closure letter that we sent to the County still has not been responded to. We require their input/approval in order to close the alley south of 49th Avenue on the west side.
- The pre-audit of the Village was completed on October 15 and 16. The full audit is scheduled for February 18th to 20th.
- Our MSI funding applications and approvals are caught up and we await only 2012 and 2013 Operating allocations for which we budgeted this year.
- The payment of \$213,000.00 was made to the Water Commission on September 10th. This payment is for Phase II and was paid from MSI Capital funding received last week. We will need the 2014 to add to the \$88,000 we are currently holding in a GIC account for that purpose to complete the payment for Phase III.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT - by Kevin Smith

- The regional water line tie-ins are just about complete at the water plant;
 - The proposed location of the communications tower was unacceptable, we have come to an agreement for a satisfactory location.
- The fall release of sewage effluent is in progress. Beaver dams have been blown.
- In process of doing pot hole repairs. We have purchased 27 tons of cold mix; weather permitting the patching should be completed by next week.
- The Drinking Water Safety Plan is nearly complete. The deadline for the submission of the document is December 31, 2013.
- The trail washrooms are still being vandalized. They are now only open on week-ends during the day.
- Danyluk Construction has been contracted to hydro-vac two broken water valves and repair the water hydrant on 48th street. The 1st calls have been requested.

MAYOR ROMANKO'S REPORT**Smoky Lake Foundation – September 18, 2013**

- The wage of the Assistant Maintenance Manager was increased to \$20 per hour, discovered the Maintenance people are not a part of the union contract.
- Letter of Thanks was to be sent to thank them for their work to make the Ground Breaking Ceremony.
- ASCHA Convention to be held in Calgary March 26-28 , 2014.
- Vilna self- contained and R&N Housing are full.
- Waskatenau has 3 openings, Smoky Lake has 2 openings.
- The Vilna Lodge has 3 openings with many inquiries; those three rooms have to be renovated.

Next meeting Oct. 16.

Smoky Lake Foundation Meeting - October 16, 2013

- ASLI Project had 2 site meeting, Binder looking for local laborers, another staff to staff meeting scheduled for Oct. 22.
- No decision with regard to hiring of Furniture design hiring, may go on own to lower costs, government has design people available at no cost, could save up to \$200 000. Local Hutterite Colony now can build limited amount of furniture.
- Presentation by Loretta Bertol representing Municipal Affairs Housing promoting more regionalization because of Housing Act Link System of information gathering.
- Looking to combine 600 to 1 000 units per area.
- Federal agreement with Province to provide low cost housing is expiring, possible deficit of \$300 million.

- Looking to sell all assets then group using funds to build 3 function facilities.
- Spirited discussion followed. Seems government wants private groups to take over all housing from local groups.
- Vilna still at 36/40 waiting to repair and carpet once grant comes through, Bar V Nook having problems renting small rooms.
- Moved to increase rent for respite patients to \$50 in dementia and \$40 per day in regular rooms.

Next regular meeting November 20.

Highway 28/63 Water Commission, Thorhild , September 27

- Contract 3 and 4 are proceeding on schedule, delay expected because waiting for shop drawings for the Bellis truck fill.
- CRNWSC construction is completed at the Anthony Henday project, so can supply water to Smoky Lake.
- Meeting was scheduled for Oct. 2 with St. Paul to supply water to Ashmont. It was suggested that St. Paul become a customer of 28/63, they would not be board members, would only be responsible for construction of line from Spedden to Ashmont.
- Contract with Commission and Capital Region Northeast Water Services Commission was presented for review.

Next meeting November 1.

HUB MEETING, September 19, at St. Paul

- Letter from Enterprise and Advanced Education extending the contract with HUB, no budget indicated.
- New category of membership was added (Affiliate Member) this allow Highway 36 to join. This is to allow for information exchange with a collaboration focus. They will have no board position or voting rights. Motion to accept Highway 36 membership passed.
- The three eastern economic groups (HUB, Battle River, and Palliser) have agreed to cooperate and combine resources to promote the Eastern Trade Corridor. This allows for a \$1 investment adds up to \$6 value, because government matches any dollar spent.
- The three groups attended the Ports to Plains Conference at Amarillo Texas on Oct. 1-3. They were involved in the trade show and time at the mike to promote our areas and connect with like businesses.
- Karen Henderson of the Oil Secretariat presented the background to the CRISP report on the Cold Lake Oil Sands. The report will include a long term plan for infrastructure needs and identify issues, Meetings will be held with province, municipal and industry leaders. HUB was only group to be invited because of collaborative work. This is to be a strategy developed not a study, sharing work and consider community needs.

DEPUTY MAYOR BARRY'S REPORT

Vilna Fire Department

- The Fire Department has been enhancing Mushroom Park over the past years. This year they are proposing to build a skating shelter.
- They would like to create a picnic area at the park if the Village has a camp stove they can donate.

COUNCILLOR FARMER'S REPORTS

Evergreen Regional Waste meeting – October 9th, 2013

- At the last Board meeting Ramona presented the Board with the costs of buying water tanks, pumps & piping for both the Maintenance Shop & the Scale House. The cost for both buildings would be \$5,553.89. With the upcoming appeal of the Grazing Commission being held on November 5th & the possibility of having to shut down both wells at the Evergreen site, the Board has approved the installation of the water tanks at the scale house & the Maintenance Shop.
- Grizzly Disposal Services has signed a contract to haul waste to the Evergreen site at a cost of \$85.00 a tonne, to a maximum of 2500 tonnes.
- A member of Beaver River Council has agreed to put the outstanding balance owing to Evergreen onto the agenda of their October Council meeting.
- During her regional site report, Ramona brought up the subject of Litter Control. She requested that the Board spend approximately \$3,000 to put up small fences around part of the site to catch litter that is constantly blowing into nearby fields. The Board has agreed to look at including this request into the 2014 budget.
- The Board has finally heard back from Municipal Affairs regarding the Ministerial order to be able to accept more waste from non-member parties. The letter came from Linda Reynolds, Municipal Sustainability Advisor, dept. of Municipal Affairs. She informed the Board that their paperwork was not up to date. Bylaw #1-2000 that was the first Bylaw ever passed by the Board on March 24th of 2000, shows Warspite as a voting member of the Commission. On August 31st, 2000, Bylaw #2-2000 was passed, showing that the Village of Warspite was resolved & has been removed from the list of voting members.
- It appears that this Bylaw was never signed by the Minister, nobody can find a signed copy. The Minister will not sign the request to expand the amount of waste that Evergreen can take until a new Bylaw, rescinding Bylaw #1-200, has been signed.
- Bylaw #11 was presented to the Board, given all 3 readings, has been sent to the Minister for his signature. Once Bylaw #11 is signed by the Minister, then Linda's recommendation is to "pass a second new Bylaw to address the Board procedures and administrative issues currently enforced in bylaws 1-2000 & 2-2000; and rescind bylaws #1-2000 & 2-2000 at that time".
- Linda also goes on to say that she would recommend that for **consistency** the definition of **member** be used in the commission bylaws & the definition of **director** in the template Bylaw is a person appointed to the Board of Directors.
- **For future reference**, Evergreen Regional Waste monthly meetings are held in the Council board room, main floor of the County of St. Paul offices, located on 49th Ave. in St. Paul.

N.E. Muni-Corr Board Meeting – October 7th, 2013

- There was no quorum at this meeting, only 6 Directors were in attendance.
- Contractor 1 (Smoky lake to Bellis) has finished their work on the trail. Contractor 2 from Bellis to Spedden has some work left to do. This contractor has been using too much sand on the trail surface, making the trail very difficult to navigate.
- The third person charged with setting the fire to the Beaver River Trestle is scheduled to appear in court at the end of October.
- Muni-Corr & Riverland Recreational Trail Society (R.R.T.S.) will be appearing as a delegation before all member Councils between November 1st & December 31st, looking for monetary support for the rebuilding of the trestle. They will also share with the respective Council's the breakdown of the fundraising schedule.
- Telus has finally signed a crossing agreement; in fact they have signed two this past month.
- Council may remember that in my report of April 2012, when the City of Cold Lake was making changes to the staging area without Board approval. Cold Lake sent a young lady from their planning & development office to make a presentation to the Board, she was asked to go back to Cold Lake Council & inquire if the City was going to make an offer to purchase the land that they wanted to develop into a camp ground. No response had been heard from Cold Lake since that meeting. Marianne was in Cold Lake in the past month & saw that the Cold Lake Staging Area was being used as a pipe storage yard, again without consent. Marianne contacted the Town of Cold Lake & suggested that they send a delegation to the next Muni-Corr meeting. A 2 person delegation from Cold Lake did come to the Board to present their development plan for a campground, which they are in the process of building, at the site of the Cold Lake Staging Area. The initial plan is to install 5 day use sites (RV parking stalls), with a proposed area to the East of 14 more sites, for overnight camping. The delegation has been asked to reconsider some of the areas that they are developing because of the 99 foot right-of-way that must remain open. Also they have been asked to talk to City Council to see if the City intends to make an offer to purchase the land that they want to use. This area of this future development would take up Muni-Corr lots 6, 7, 8 & part of lot 9.
- The voting for Round 1 has ended for “**Save the Trestle**”, not enough votes were received to put us immediately into the final round. Round 2 starts today, Monday, October 21st. This is a prize worth \$150,000.00 that can be used toward the rebuilding of the Beaver River trestle. Please vote, ask others to vote, this is very important to NE Alberta & to the tourist trade.
- **For future reference** – Muni-Corr uses the meeting room that is located on the lower floor of the County of St. Paul office building on 49th Avenue, with easiest access gained through the West door in the rear of the building.

Organizational meeting – Monday, November 4th, 2013

Next regular meeting to follow the Organizational meeting

Res 159-13 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the reports be accepted for information.

CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS

a) Use of MSI Capital Funds

During budget discussions it was agreed that the Village would use their MSI Capital Grant Funds to cover the Village's share of the construction costs to build the water line from Waskatenau to Spedden. Phase I has already been debentured. The Village share of Phase II is \$213,390.00 what has now been paid in full using 2010 & 2011 MSI Capital Funds. Phase III will cost the Village \$228,711.00. There is currently \$140,419.00 in the Reserve account, with the 2012 & 2013 MSI Capital funding there will be sufficient funds to cover the whole of the Phase III payment.

Res 160-13

Moved Councillor Klassen that Administration be directed to use the 2013 MSI Capital Grant funding allocation to pay Vilna's Regional Water Line costs, in order that no debt is incurred and thereby not causing any increase to taxes or utility rates and therefore not adding extra burden to the Vilna ratepayers; and to advise the Highway 28/63 Regional Water Services Commission that Vilna will not be borrowing on the next debenture application.

CARRIED

b) Herman Petersen Civil Law Suit

The Court Hearing pertaining to the claims of Mr. Petersen regarding the house located on Lot 14, Block 4, Plan 1887 CL was held on Monday, October 21, 2013 in St. Paul. After reviewing all of the submissions and statements pertaining to this case the judge summarily dismissed all charges against the Village of Vilna, its present and past Council and its present and past employees. He further dismissed any charges against the two subsequent purchasers of the property leaving the only remaining claim against Mr. Sharp, the owner of the property at the time of the purchase discussions between him and Mr. Petersen.

Res 161-13

Moved by Mayor Romanko that the report on the Herman Petersen Civil Law Suit be accepted for information.

CARRIED

7. BYLAWS & POLICIES**a. Bylaw #502-13**

We have had no communication from the County regarding the proposed road closure. Administration has suggested that rather than closing the alley, that encroachment agreements be signed with each of the adjacent property owners with these agreements registered against the affected titles. This will leave the alley available for distant future potential development.

The Bylaw will be brought forward once they have responded.

8. FINANCIAL REPORT:**Res. 162-13**

Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that payment of cheques #11959 – 11982 in the amount of \$36,696.60 and direct deposits in the amount of \$11,426.51 be accepted for information.

CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

- a.** AMSC Insurance - Services available
- b.** Minister of Municipal Affairs – Minister's Library Service awards

- c. Canadian Wireless Communications Assoc. – Recycle My Cell initiative
- d. Mark Watson Email – Alberta Transportation in Athabasca Meeting re RCDC
- e. Alberta Transportation – Meeting slots available at AUMA Convention
- f. Highway 28/63 Regional Water Services Commission – Decision Required
- g. Assessment Quality Minister’s Guidelines - Ministerial Order L:175/13
- h. CRASC Workshop and AGM November 13, 2013
- i. HUB Email – Board/Membership Meeting and Round Table November 29, 2013
- j. Alberta ESRD – AUMA Convention and Trade Show Sessions re Environmental issues
- k. Alberta Government – 2013 Great Kids Awards
- l. Northern Lights Library System (NLLS) – Council Appointments
- m. Alberta Transportation – Removal of Bonnie Lake Recreational Area brown and white signs
- n. James Gerrior, - offer to paint street garbage containers.
- o. John & Delores McCormack - repair water c.c.

Res. 163-13 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the correspondence be accepted for information.

CARRIED

NEXT MEETING:

- a) Regular Council Meeting, November 18, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

Res. 164-13 Mayor Romanko adjourned the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Donald Romanko, Mayor

Loni Leslie, CAO