

10005

Claresholm, Alberta, January 26, 2011

The regular meeting of the Council of The Municipal District of Willow Creek No. 26 was held in the Administration Building on the above date with Reeve Van Hierden, Councillors Alm, Neufeld, Hemmaway, Wakelin, Wilson and Sundquist, Municipal Administrator Vizzutti and Arlene MacOdrum as recording secretary present.

Superintendent of Public Works Johnson entered the meeting.

Manager of Development and Planning Services Gibeau & Mike Burla – Planner entered the meeting.

Keli Sandford – Development Assistant entered the meeting.

Rob Vogt entered the meeting.

1. Reeve Van Hierden called the meeting to order at 10:23 a.m.

2. **MINUTES:**

Councillor Sundquist noted on Page 9998 under item (e) Recycling, fifth paragraph, delete the word “to”.

Moved by Councillor Hemmaway that the January 12, 2011 Council meeting minutes be accepted as amended.

Carried.

3. **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT:**

(a) **Cheque Register**

Municipal Administrator Vizzutti presented the cheque register for January 26, 2011 as information.

4. **PUBLIC WORKS:**

(a) **Bobcat**

Superintendent of Public Works Johnson advised that the M.D. could upgrade the Bobcat from an S250 to a new S650 for \$2500.00 and the air ride seat and radio are an additional \$600.00.

Moved by Councillor Neufeld to approve trading the S250 bobcat for a new S650 Bobcat including the air ride seat and radio at a cost of \$3,100 + GST from Evcon Farm Equipment Ltd.

Carried.

(b) **Royalty Payments & Borrow Area Disturbed for Discussion**

Superintendent of Public Works Johnson asked Council if they wish to consider increasing the amount that the M.D. pays for gravel royalties and borrow area disturbed.

Councillor Sundquist declared a possible conflict of interest and will not be participating in the discussion or voting on the matter.

Discussion ensued with regards to what the province pays for gravel royalties.

10006

Claresholm, Alberta, January 26, 2011

Council instructed Superintendent of Public Works Johnson to conduct a survey of what other municipalities pay for gravel royalties, borrow area disturbed, etc.

Councillor Sundquist resumed participation in the meeting.

(c) John Takacs

Superintendent of Public Works Johnson advised Council that grader operator John Takacs suffered a heart attack. He advised that John is doing well and expects to return to work in a month.

5. COUNCIL MANAGEMENT:

(a) Terry's Tire Bill – Tabled Item

The bill for tipping fees at the Foothills landfill incurred by Terry's Tire on December 24, 2010 was discussed. Council felt that it is the contractor's responsibility to check with the Willow Creek Regional Waste Management Services to ensure hours of operation prior to driving from Nanton. It was suggested that the landfill operator could let contractors, who regularly attend at the landfill, know their holiday hours or ensure that their answering machine indicates what their holiday hours will be.

Moved by Councillor Wilson that the M.D. reimburse Terry's Tire \$85.00, to cover the tipping fee incurred at the Foothills landfill on December 24, 2010, as the Willow Creek Regional Waste Services was closed for the holidays.

Carried.

(b) Bryce Meldrum Retirement Expenses – Tabled Item

Municipal Administrator Vizzutti reintroduced the request from the Fort Macleod Fire Department for help with the over expenditure in the amount of \$2,622.49 for Bryce Meldrum's Retirement party.

Moved by Councillor Sundquist that the M.D. of Willow Creek not contribute to the over expenditure with regards to Bryce Meldrum's retirement party.

Carried.

(c) ORRSC

Municipal Administrator Vizzutti reminded Council of the Municipal Planning Orientation Workshop hosted by ORRSC, on January 27th at 7:00 a.m. at the M.D. of Willow Creek Administration building.

(d) ERCB - Well Spacing

Municipal Administrator Vizzutti advised that she received a notification from the ERCB for the M.D.'s input regarding proposed changes to well spacing. Once all feedback is reviewed the ERCB will contact the M.D. with follow-up communication related to their submission.

(e) Granum Drop In Centre

Municipal Administrator Vizzutti presented an invitation from the Granum Drop-In Centre to attend a luncheon with MLA Evan Berger on January 28th.

10007

Claresholm, Alberta, January 26, 2011

Noted that Reeve Van Hierden and Councillor Neufeld will attend the luncheon at the Granum Drop-In Centre.

(f) Draft for Operations Services Shop & Fire Hall - Fort

Macleod

Municipal Administrator Vizzutti provided hard copy of the draft for Council to review. She advised that over 50% of the facility will be for the Town of Fort Macleod. The construction cost is estimated at 8.7 million.

(g) Volker Stevin – Vegetation Management

Moved by Councillor Hemmaway approve the agreement with Volker Stevin for the M.D. of Willow Creek Ag Services to provide vegetation control along highways within the M.D. boundary.

Carried.

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

(a) AMHSA – Certificate of Recognition

Municipal Administrator Vizzutti advised that the Municipal District received a Certificate of Recognition from Alberta Municipal Health and Safety Association for obtaining 89% on the safety audit.

(b) Sale of Public Land to Municipalities for Public Works

Municipal Administrator Vizzutti presented an information letter from the Lands Division of the Government of Alberta with regards to Sale of Public Land to Municipalities for public works.

(c) Chinook Emergency Services Ltd. – re: Ambulance Service

Municipal Administrator Vizzutti read a letter from Chris Moore, Operations Manager of Chinook Emergency Services Ltd. advising that effective July 14, 2011 they will cease to supply ambulance service.

Municipal Administrator Vizzutti read a letter from Chinook Emergency Services Ltd. to EMS Services advising that they are terminating their contract with Alberta Health Services to provide ambulance service to Claresholm, Stavely, Granum and MD of Willow Creek and other areas of Alberta on July 14, 2011.

Moved by Councillor Sundquist that a meeting be arranged, during the AAMDC Spring Convention in March, with Hon. Gene Zwozdesky to discuss the provision of ambulance service in the M.D. of Willow Creek by Alberta Health Services.

Carried.

(d) Claresholm Jr. Rodeo Club – Thank you – presented.

(e) Fort Macleod RCMP Report – presented.

Keli Sandford – Development Assistant left the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

10008

Claresholm, Alberta, January 26, 2011

(f) High School Rodeo – Request for Donation

Councillor Hemmaway presented a request from Lenore Selk for financial support towards hosting the High School Rodeo at the Silver Slate Arena on March 26 & 27, 2011.

Moved by Councillor Alm to donate \$300.00 towards hosting the High School Rodeo and payable to the “Claresholm Wrangler Junior Division” from the following discretionary accounts:

Division 4 - \$100.00

Division 5 - \$100.00

Division 6 - \$100.00

Carried.

(g) Rural Crime Watch

Councillor Hemmaway advised that Gail Fjordbotten is organizing a meeting on March 16th to discuss a Rural Crime Watch program for the area east of Claresholm.

Moved by Councillor Wakelin that the meeting go in camera.

Carried.

Rob Vogt left the meeting.

Moved by Councillor Wilson that the meeting go out of in camera.

Carried.

Meeting recessed for lunch at 11:50 a.m.

Meeting reconvened at 1:11 p.m.

Rob Vogt returned to the meeting at 1:11 p.m.

7. DELEGATIONS:

(a) Sustainable Resource Development – Prescribed Burns

Morgan Kehr, Richard Paton and Rick Arthur of SRD entered the meeting.

Rick Arthur presented the Prescribed Fire Program 2011 for the Southern Rockies area. He advised that SRD use prescribed burns to shape and maintain ecosystems with different burns for different reasons.

Rick Arthur reviewed the Flying E burn from last May and apologized for the lack of communication with the M.D. at that time. He advised that they are proposing a prescribed burn in the Lyndon Creek area in the spring and expanding the area of the Flying E burn.

Rick Arthur showed an outline of the 5 year proposed plan for burns in areas east and west of Chain Lakes.

Rick Arthur advised that they will be hosting Open Houses to inform people of the burns and asked for suggestions to improve communication with the M.D.

Councillor Alm recommended that SRD should notify the people who live in the area of proposed burn.

10009

Claresholm, Alberta, January 26, 2011

Rick Arthur stated that SRD will notify the M.D. and then the M.D. can let the fire chiefs know of planned burns.

Rick Arthur advised that guard burning will commence mid April to mid May with the prescribed burns starting in early May and hoping to finish prior to the long weekend in May. He advised that SRD will be advertising in the local papers however the weather dictates the days that are good to burn.

Councillor Wilson asked if the broad leaf weeds are controlled by the fires.

Rick Arthur advised that non native species are maintained by grazing practices; however animals tend to leave the native species.

Councillor Hemmaway asked about the spread of the Pine Beetle and if the cold weather has helped with control.

Rick Arthur advised that colder weather earlier in the winter along with a longer cold snap is better at eliminating the Pine Beetle.

Morgan Kehr advised that the rate at which the Pine Beetle infestation has spread is decreasing and the number of new sites has diminished, however the over flight from B.C. is a huge concern.

Rick Arthur advised that mild winters will bring on severe attacks.

Reeve Van Hierden asked how the burn areas are controlled.

Rick Arthur advised that they use the ridge tops and burn down in strips to ensure secure burns. Portable water tanks are located at the top of the ridges and sprinklers are run along the top of the ridge and down the coulees. Foam is added to extend the water used.

Areas of poplar overgrowth and attempts to restore douglas fir stands was discussed.

Morgan Kehr, Richard Paton and Rick Arthur of SRD left the meeting at 1:51 p.m.

(b) Chinook Arch Regional Library

Robin Hephpen, Assistant Director entered the meeting at 1:54 p.m.

Robin Hephpen gave an overview of local libraries and the benefits of being a member of the Chinook Arch Regional Library system. He advised that the Chinook Arch Regional Library board consists of 41 members.

Robin Hephpen left the meeting at 2:19 p.m.

(c) Benchmark Assessment

Wayne Lamb & Brandon Garner entered the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Wayne Lamb of Benchmark Assessments previewed the basics of how assessments are calculated, market values and the appeal process as an information session for Council.

Wayne Lamb and Brandon Garner left the meeting at 2:54 p.m.

10010

Claresholm, Alberta, January 26, 2011

Sergeant Terry Wicket of the Claresholm RCMP entered the meeting at 2:54 p.m.

(d) Claresholm RCMP

Sergeant Terry Wicket of the Claresholm RCMP Detachment was present to meet Council and ask if there are any issues or concerns that the RCMP could assist with or should be aware of. He reviewed the detachment personnel and various transfers.

Councillor Hemmaway discussed the organizing of a Rural Crime Watch group for the area east of Claresholm. He asked if there would be a zone for patrols.

Sergeant Terry Wicket advised that the RCMP would like the Rural Crime Watch volunteers to patrol the areas they are familiar with.

Terry Wicket left the meeting at 3:22 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Councillor Hemmaway that the meeting adjourn.

Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

Reeve

Municipal Administrator