

COUNTY COUNCIL

March 24, 2010

A County Council meeting was held in the County Office on March 24, 2010. In attendance were Reeve R. Jones, R. Ford, W. Cunningham, R. Taylor, G. Krokosh, J. Meeks Sr, K. Palmer, Administrator A. Romeril, Superintendent R. Coppieters and CPO S. Simpson.

Reeve R. Jones called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

MINUTES
(10-03-22)

G. Krokosh moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held March 2, 2010.

Carried.

ADDITIONS
TO AGENDA
(10-03-23)

R. Taylor moved to add the following items to the agenda:
News Release - Minister Liepert Investment Attraction Mission
News Release - Municipal Election Transparency Rules
BEW - FCSS February 3, 2010 Minutes
Bob Laackman - Provincial Land Purchase
Wrentham Utility Association
Municipal Affairs - Regional Service Commission Debt Limit Regulation
Municipal Affairs - Investment Regulation
2010 County Budget - Preliminary
Village of Warner - Transfer Station Costs
Fire Hall Emergency Air Compressor Annual Maintenance Costs
Defibrillator Training
AAMDC Convention Topic Review

Carried.

MYERS ROAD
(10-03-24)

G. Krokosh moved to proceed with the upgrading of a trail located to the east of the SE 27-7-17-4 by pulling it up and graveling it for approximately one half mile at an estimated cost of \$15,000 on condition the construction of the new home is commenced.

Carried.

BRIDGE
PROJECTS
(10-03-25)

K. Palmer moved to receive Superintendent R. Coppieters report on the work that is required to replace the two bridge structures/culverts near G. Romeril (SE 5-6-20-4) and R. Bianchi (SW 22-1-12-4), and further the costs will be covered through grants by Alberta Transportation if contracted out.

Carried.

SNOW GRAVEL
PIT
(10-03-26)

K. Palmer moved to approve the low bid of Bear Tracks Environmental Services in the amount of \$725 to conduct the species at risk survey on the property described as NW 23-2-17-4, and further, this is approved on condition permission is obtained from the lessee to enter the property.

Carried.

COUTTS
BYPASS ROAD
(10-03-27)

G. Krokosh moved to approve the construction of the Coutts Bypass Road on the existing 66 foot road allowance with a 10 meter developed top unless funding support is obtained to purchase the additional land required for a 14 meter top on a 100 foot road allowance.

Carried.

OVERHEAD
CRANE
(10-03-28)

G. Krokosh moved to investigate other options to an overhead crane such as a larger "A" frame model, and also investigate the cost for an increased lifting capacity above that of 10 tons.

Carried.

AMSA

Future agendas of the Alberta Municipal Supervisors Association conventions will be monitored and will be attended if the topics covered are determined to be a benefit to the County of Warner.

R. Coppieters left the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

RAW WATER
EMERGENCY
SUPPLY

Administration is still researching the current location of rural raw water emergency supply locations and further, a meeting has been arranged with the Raymond Irrigation District to discuss the issue with them.

S. Simpson left the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

RECESS

Reeve R. Jones called for a recess at 10:16 a.m.

Reeve R. Jones called the meeting back to order at 10:28 a.m.

B. LAACKMAN
& WOS LANDS

Mr. B. Laackman entered the meeting at 10:32 a.m. to discuss his concerns over the recent purchase of approximately 2,000 acres of land along the Milk River by the Province of Alberta. The lands are reported to be added to the Writing on Stone Park inventory. He feels the process of purchasing the land is flawed and the province is not protecting agricultural land by making the purchase for recreational purposes. He feels that the price of farmland has been inflated due to the price the Alberta Government paid for the lands. B. Laackman left the meeting at 10:49 a.m.

(10-03-29)

R. Ford moved to forward a letter to the Alberta Government requesting information, answers and explanations to the following concerns:

1. What is the process used to determine what additional lands are required for enlarging the land base for the Writing on Stone Park?
2. How was the purchase price determined?
3. Did the province consider that the price they paid for the lands might inflate other agricultural lands around the lands purchased?
4. Is the province looking at purchasing more lands along the Milk River?
5. Why was the local municipality not consulted before the lands were purchased? Should the municipality be consulted?
6. What are the lands going to be used for? Will the lands still be assessable or will they become exempt from taxation?
7. Why were 2,000 acres purchased?
8. Why were the lands purchased so far away from the Writing on Stone Park?

Carried.

MILK RIVER
DOCTOR
RECRUITMENT
(10-03-30)

R. Ford moved to approve the draft Asset Purchase Agreement for the Medical Clinic Equipment on condition the agreement be amended to reflect the seller as being the Municipalities and the signing authority for the Municipalities be the Municipalities.

Carried.

WARNER
COMMUNITY
BETTERMENT

R. Taylor attended the first meeting of the proposed Warner Community Betterment Society and the group determined that a Society is required. A second meeting will be attended when they prepared the necessary documents to formally present it to their membership.

WARNER WEST
WATER COOP
(10-03-31)

R. Taylor moved to receive the Warner West Water Coop Ltd letter regarding easements and MATL and further, forward a letter to the Coop indicating that the County will not authorize MATL to utilize the current water pipeline easements to be used as a right of way for the location of their transmission line.

Carried.

Accountant R. Shaw entered the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

BANK RECON-
CILIATION
(10-03-32)

J. Meeks Sr moved to approve the bank reconciliation statement as at February 28, 2010 and it is attached.

Carried.

BILLS FOR
PAYMENT
(10-03-33)

R. Taylor moved to receive the Schedule of Disbursements as at March 24, 2010 in the amount of \$464,106.80 and it is attached.

Carried.

R. Shaw left the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

RCMP AND
SHERIFFS
(10-03-34)

G. Krokosh moved the R. Jones and S. Simpson attend the information session with the RCMP and Alberta Sheriffs on their integration for traffic, and further the meeting is being held in Lethbridge on March 26, 2010.

Carried.

RIDGE COUNTRY
HOUSING
(10-03-35)

K. Palmer moved to approve the Ridge Country Housing 2010 requisition to the County in the amount of \$204,152.99.

Carried.

AHS/COUNTY
RADIO TOWER
(10-03-36)

R. Taylor moved to table the discussion on the Communication Infrastructure Use Agreement with Alberta Health Services to the April 6, 2010 Council meeting.

Carried.

GRAZING LEASE
(10-03-37)

R. Taylor moved to renew the County Grazing Lease Agreement with William Kaupp for 74.6 acres in the SE 32-5-18-4 for \$700.

Carried.

R. DOUBLE
DIAMOND
CATTLE CO.
(10-03-38)

R. Taylor moved to receive R. Double Diamond Cattle Co. Ltd letter regarding a multi year assessment and taxation issue, and further, grant a tax adjustment for the period of 2006 - 2008 in the amount of \$1,365.27 which is approximately 50% of the over levy amount.

Carried.

ASSESSMENT
REVIEW BOARDS
(10-03-39)

R. Ford moved that Administration research various options in establishing a local, joint or regional Assessment Review Board.

Carried.

LUNCH

Reeve R. Jones called a recess for lunch at 12:03 p.m.

Reeve R. Jones called the meeting back to order at 1:15 p.m.

GREAT CDN.
PLAINS RAILWAY
(10-03-40)

K. Palmer moved to proceed with the process to designate the Great Canadian Plains Railway Society buildings located on Lot 1, Block 2, Plan 0211530 (SW 32-6-19-4) as a Municipal Heritage Resource and further, forward the Notice of Intention to Designate a Municipal Resource to the Society.

Carried.

RAMP
(10-03-41)

R. Taylor moved to forward a prepared list of questions, as presented, regarding the RAMP Pilot Evaluation to Honorable Minister Mel Knight of Sustainable Resource Development and ask for a written response to the issues.

Carried.

CHIEF MOUNTAIN
REG. WASTE
AUTHORITY
(10-03-42)

W. Cunningham moved to approve the 2010 Chief Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority requisition in the amount of \$79,977.08.

Carried.

2009/10 MSP
(10-03-43)

G. Krokosh moved to approve and sign the Municipal Sponsorship Grant agreement for 2009/2010 in the amount of \$42,433 for the rural addressing signage project.

Carried.

EMERGENCY
AIR COMPRESS.
INSPECTION

Administration will investigate whether an annual inspection of the emergency air compressor stations located within the fire halls are compulsory due to an annual estimated inspection cost of \$1,100 per unit.

WRENTHAM
UTILITY
ASSOCIATION
(10-03-44)

W. Cunningham moved to receive Administration's report on the concerns expressed by the Wrentham Utility Association and the costs associated with maintaining water treatment plant operator services for their plant.

Carried.

2010 PRELIM.
BUDGET
(10-03-45)

G. Krokosh moved to receive Administration's report on the 2010 preliminary budget, decreased assessment base, rising taxation costs and how it will effect the mill rate, and further, the use of reserves will help to eliminate any increase to the mill rate.

Carried.

WARNER WASTE
TRANSFER
STATION COSTS
(10-03-46)

R. Taylor moved to receive the Village of Warner's letter requesting the cost share arrangement with the County for the operation of the Warner Waste Transfer Station be reviewed, and further, Administration gather operational data from the Village in order that an informed decision can be made.

Carried.

COMMITTEE
REPORTS

W. Cunningham - He has met with representatives of Alberta Environment and Department of Fisheries and Oceans to review the material on the fish at risk in the Milk River.

G. Krokosh - The Wrentham Playground Project grant application was denied under the CIP grant. They may have to make application under the CFEP to be eligible.

R. Ford - The Coutts Recreation Board is looking at making improvements to the Coutts baseball concession and restrooms. The Coutts Community School is slated to be closed. The County Health and Safety Annual Meeting was attended.

R. Jones - Meetings attended included the Emergency Services Recognition Night, Doctor Recruitment, Health and Safety Annual Meeting and the Spring AAMDC Convention. The AAMDC Executive will be attending the April 20, 2010 County Council meeting and topics may include franchise agreement for gas coops, moving the AAMDC Convention back to South Edmonton, and the sharing of legal bills.

POLICY REVIEW
COMMITTEE

The Council wishes to review the Salary Negotiation Policy and Convention Fees at the next Policy Review Committee meeting.

ADJOURN
(10-03-47)

G. Krokosh moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

Reeve

Administrator