

STARLAND COUNTY

COUNCIL MEETING, NOVEMBER 10th, 2020

A regular meeting of the Council of Starland County was held at the Administration Office in Morrin, Alberta on Tuesday, November 10th, 2020, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Attendance Present: Reeve: Steve Wannstrom
Deputy Reeve: Bob Sargent
Councillors: Murray Marshall, John Rew and Jackie Watts
Staff: CAO Shirley Bremer
Assistant CAO Matthew Kreke

C20-231
Agenda
Approval

[C20-231] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR REW

that the agenda for the November 10th, 2020 meeting of the Council of Starland County be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C20-232
Approval of
Organizational
Minutes

[C20-232] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL

that the minutes of the October 28th, 2020 organizational meeting of the Council of Starland County be approved as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

C20-233
Approval of
Minutes

[C20-233] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WATTS

that the minutes of the October 28th, 2020 regular meeting of the Council of Starland County be approved as circulaed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Accounts

Councillor Marshall and Councillor Watts checked accounts with Administrative Assistant Laya Montgomery.

C20-234
Accounts

[C20-234] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WATTS

that accounts (cheque no. 51463 to 51522 inclusive) totalling \$1,114,976.03 be approved for payment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Financial
Statements

Council was presented with the monthly financial statement for the month of October 2020.

C20-235
Financial
Statements

[C20-235] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WATTS

that the month end financial statement for the month of October 2020 be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CAO Report

Chief Administrative Officer Shirley Bremer reviewed the CAO Report with Council. Highlights of the report included the following:

- Shirley attended the RMA Virtual Fall Convention and met virtually on Monday afternoon for the Mayor's and Reeve's Meeting. This meeting is always well attended with nearly 100 people participating. The main topic of discussion was led by Carolyn Kolebaba, in regards to the impact of the assessment

changes on each municipality. There was also discussion regarding oil and gas companies not paying their taxes and/or their lease payments.

- The RMA convention itself was good, considering the circumstances and having to present and attend it virtually. The RMA handled this very well and the voting worked probably better than with the clickers! There is a new president, Paul; the resolution session went quite smoothly with the majority of resolutions being passed; our new Zone Director is Amber Link, Reeve from Wheatland County; and Premier Kenney addressed the delegation as well.
- The interim audit was completed last Wednesday and Thursday. The Auditors assured Shirley that things appear to be in order and they will be taking into account the recommendations that were pointed out from our MAP review when reporting on Salary and Benefits. We need to include any and all of our Designated Officers (such as our contracted Assessor, Ag Fieldman, SDAB Clerk, Development Officer and Subdivision Authority Secretary) and do not have to include all salaries and wages of other employees, except for the CAO, Councillors and Designated Officers.

Alberta
Environment
Delegation

At 9:25 a.m. Dominique Primeau and Craig Copeland of Alberta Environment and Manager of Municipal Services Glen Riep attended the meeting. The Alberta Environment delegation gave a presentation on the state of the fish habitats in the McLaren and Michichi Dam Reservoirs. Various tests of water quality were used to determine the viability of trout in the reservoirs. They noted large quantities of fishing birds on both reservoirs as well as the presence of unfavourable water conditions in the McLaren Reservoir which may be preventing fish stocks from taking hold and local fishermen from being able to catch fish. Several suggestions for improving the stocks were made including mechanical aeration.

Departure

At 10:35 a.m. the delegation from Alberta Environment departed from the meeting.

PRMS Delegation

At 10:37 a.m. Devin Diano and Cody Dale-McNair of Palliser Regional Municipal Services attended the meeting and gave a presentation on the current activities of Palliser Regional Municipal Services. The organization has had a lot of staff turnover recently and Devin has been appointed the new CEO of the organization.

Departure

At 11:35 a.m. the delegation from Palliser Regional Municipal Services departed from the meeting.

MS Report

Municipal Services Manager Riep reviewed his MS report with Council. Highlights of the report included:

- The Utilities Crew has completed the flushing program on the Craigmyle water system. They are concentrating on the location and operation valves and making sure they work, and all markings are in place, this includes the posts and signage. Several deficiencies were found within the rural systems such as many missing signs and markers that will have to be replaced.
- The NRCB ruling for the Starland Colony dairy barn was upheld and the approval maintained without any review being considered. Glen has been to the property and noted that several structures were already under construction or built.
- The issue of flax straw burning in the fields in Starland County has led to a number of ratepayers expressing concern with Starland County allowing this practice. 2020 has seen the number of flax seeded acres increase drastically and it is clear that if this acreage were to be burned it would cause a significant amount of environmental concerns and nuisance to many neighbouring

residential properties. Glen has drafted a policy that would increase restrictions on flax straw burning however negative public reaction would indicate that this policy may be untenable. Glen is recommending instead that Starland County stop regulating winter season burns and allow this process to follow the provincial standards. This would require Council to amend Bylaw 1042.

- Departure At 12:30 p.m. Glen departed from the meeting.
- Grader and Equipment Maintenance At 2:00 p.m. PW Supervisor Ken Menage and Shop Supervisor Gary Collins attended the meeting and reviewed the issue of rebuilding graders ourselves. The cost quoted from Finning to do a total overhaul is lower than parts cost quoted from Finning for that same overhaul and it would come with a new warranty. To do the repairs on parts as needed could still lead to potential savings and better utilization of the shop.
- Departure At 2:30 p.m. Gary departed from the meeting.
- PW Report Public Works Supervisor Ken Menage reviewed the PW Report with Council. Highlights of his report included the following:
- The PW Crew have been screening winter sand, moving to the new shop, rigging up winter equipment and working on snow fence.
 - The Shop Crew have been working on approximately 24 pieces of equipment and 1 CVIP, and helping with the move.
 - Gradermen have been blading roads and helping rig up winter equipment.
 - Ken has been working on the new yard parking plan, the Morton Pit application, Bridge File 8323 and developing an equipment replacement plan.
 - A list of major road maintenance activities for 2021 was provided to Council and Council was asked to provide any additional jobs to fill out the 2021 plan.
- Departure At 2:45 p.m. Ken departed from the meeting.
- Policy 120-8 Council reviewed administration's proposed amendments to Policy 120-8, the Public Participation Policy. The amendments proposed were suggested during Starland County's Municipal Accountability Program Review. Council advised that they would also like to remove Section 4.1 and proposed several other changes that could be incorporated into the policy. The document will be revised and distributed to Council and Administration.
- Tax Sale Starland County currently has several properties that have outstanding taxes which have resulted in the need to go to tax sale.
- C20-236**
Date of Tax Sale **[C20-236] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR REW**
that the 2021 Starland County tax sale be held on February 10th, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at the Starland County Administration Building in Morrin, Alberta and that this sale be advertised in the December 31st issue of the Alberta Gazette.
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**
- RDRWA Requisition The Red Deer River Watershed Alliance has provided Council with a copy of the 2020 Annual Report as well as the notice of requisition of \$1,033.00 based on a \$0.50 per capita requisition.
- C20-237**
RDRWA Requisition **[C20-237] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL**
that Starland County pay the 2021 Red Deer River Watershed Alliance

requisition of \$1,033.00.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2021 Equalized Assessment	Starland County was provided with its 2021 equalized assessment numbers which are on the basis of requisitions from the provincial government. This year's assessment has dropped from \$755,447,414.00 to \$660,823,991.00.
Economic Development	An email was received from Dawna Allard of the Government of Alberta seeking out potential municipalities for the development of a 100 million Pea Fracturing Plant in Alberta. The email lists a number of requirements the municipality would have to meet in order to be considered for the plan with water access being the main constraint for Starland County.
Council Committees	All councillors present reported briefly on the committees to which they are appointed.
Attendance and Fire Bylaw	At 3:20 p.m. Municipal Services Manager Glen Riep attended the meeting to discuss wording for the amendment to Bylaw 1042 to remove County responsibility for issuing permits during the winter months.
<u>C20-238</u> Request Legal Opinion	<u>[C20-238] MOVED BY REEVE WANNSTROM</u> that Starland County administration request a legal opinion from Brownlee LLP with regard to liability issues surrounding the issuance of fire permits by the County, staff and volunteer fire fighters.
	CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
<u>C20-239</u> Bylaw 1158 – Motion to Establish	<u>[C20-239] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE SARGENT</u> that Bylaw No. 1158, a bylaw to amend Bylaw 1042 by altering Section 8 to remove year-round permits, be established.
	CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
<u>C20-240</u> Bylaw 1158 – 1 st Reading	<u>[C20-240] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR WATTS</u> that Bylaw No. 1158 be given First Reading.
	CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
<u>C20-241</u> Bylaw 1158 – 2 nd Reading	<u>[C20-241] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MARSHALL</u> that Bylaw No. 1158 be given Second Reading.
	CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
<u>C20-242</u> Bylaw 1158 – Motion to Have 3 rd Reading	<u>[C20-242] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE SARGENT</u> that Bylaw No. 1158 be presented for Third Reading at this meeting.
	CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
<u>C20-243</u> Bylaw 1158 – 3 rd Reading	<u>[C20-243] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR REW</u> that Bylaw No. 1158, a bylaw to amend Bylaw 1042 by altering Section 8 to remove year-round permits, be given Third and Final Reading and finally passed.
	CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Departure	At 3:50 p.m. Glen departed from the meeting.
<u>C20-244</u>	<u>[C20-244] MOVED BY COUNCILLOR REW</u>

Change Council Meeting Dates

that the regular meetings of the Council of Starland County scheduled for December 9th and 23rd, 2020 be cancelled and that a new regular meeting be scheduled for December 16th, 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Council Communications

Council Communications:

- i) Prairie Land Public School Division re: Board Highlights
- ii) Drumheller RCMP re: Community Engagement
- iii) Alberta Municipal Affairs re: Challenging Economic Times
- iv) Rural Municipalities of Alberta
 - Contact Newsletter (1 Issue)

Accounts

Accounts - see prior motion.

A.H. GRADER SERVICE LTD.	CK# 51463	8,158.50
A.P.I. ALARM INC.	CK# 51464	110.25
A&D HARPER TIRE (1979) LTD.	CK# 51465	2,868.08
ACKLANDS-GRAINGER INC.	CK# 51466	241.91
ADAMS INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES INC.	CK# 51467	2,807.09
ADVANCED COOLANT TECHNOLOGIES	CK# 51468	1,353.49
AIR LIQUIDE CANADA INC.	CK# 51469	431.29
ALBERTA GOVERNMENT SERVICES	CK# 51470	40.00
ALBERTA ONE-CALL CORPORATION	CK# 51471	53.55
ALBERTA ROADBUILDERS	CK# 51472	189.00
ARIES AIRFLO	CK# 51473	3,022.95
ATB FINANCIAL MASTERCARD	CK# 51474	2,004.37
AUTO VALUE PARTS – DRUMHELLER	CK# 51475	909.75
BRIDGEMEN SERVICES LTD.	CK# 51476	128,220.75
BROWNLEE LLP BARRISTERS	CK# 51477	624.75
CARLSON, JASON J	CK# 51478	57.06
CERVUS AG EQUIPMENT LP	CK# 51479	243.59
CHAMPION COMMERCIAL PRODUCTS	CK# 51480	1,074.78
CINTAS CANADA LIMITED	CK# 51481	82.95
COLLINS, GARY E.	CK# 51482	400.00
COULEE VIEW FABRICATION	CK# 51483	104.46
DIGITEX CANADA INC.	CK# 51484	433.05
DIRECTDIAL.COM	CK# 51485	1,535.94
DRUMHELLER SOLID WASTE	CK# 51486	344.09
DRUMHELLER CHRYSLER	CK# 51487	406.77
DRUMHELLER EQUIPMENT SALES	CK# 51488	262.50
DRUMHELLER REGISTRIES	CK# 51489	15.00
EAGLE BUILDERS LP	CK# 51490	883,731.40
FLAMAN, HEATHER	CK# 51491	419.55
GLOVER INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS LTD.	CK# 51492	648.21
HENRY KROEGER REGIONAL WATER	CK# 51493	11,882.43
HI-WAY 9 EXPRESS LTD.	CK# 51494	315.66
HYDRODIG CANADA INC.	CK# 51495	4,837.88
MARSHALL, MURRAY	CK# 51496	1,193.44
MEGA-TECH	CK# 51497	31.50
MORRIN FOODS	CK# 51498	41.40
PHASE 3 SECURITY INC.	CK# 51499	630.00
PUROLATOR INC.	CK# 51500	58.79
RMA FUEL	CK# 51501	32,030.90
RMA INSURANCE	CK# 51502	25.75
ROADATA SERVICES LTD.	CK# 51503	333.91
STETTLER TELEPHONE ANSWERING	CK# 51504	367.50
SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY	CK# 51505	146.48
TELUS	CK# 51506	1,130.25
TELUS MOBILITY INC.	CK# 51507	1,203.40
THE DRUMHELLER MAIL	CK# 51508	73.49
UNIFIED ALLOYS	CK# 51509	685.51
UNITED RENTALS OF CANADA INC.	CK# 51510	496.71

VILLAGE OF MORRIN	CK# 51511	250.10
WANNSTROM, STEVE	CK# 51512	3,409.72
WASTE MANAGEMENT OF CANADA	CK# 51513	294.88
WATER PURE & SIMPLE	CK# 51514	63.00
WATTS, JACKIE	CK# 51515	2,877.05
WEARPRO EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY	CK# 51516	203.70
WESTVIEW CO-OPERATIVE ASSN LTD.	CK# 51517	537.50
WILD ROSE ASSESSMENT SERVICE	CK# 51518	9,537.50
WOLSELEY WATERWORKS	CK# 51519	1,522.50

Sub-Total: \$ 1,114,976.03

TOTAL: \$ 1,114,976.03

**C20-245
Adjournment**

[C20-245] MOVED BY DEPUTY REEVE SARGENT

that the meeting be adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next meeting of the Council of Starland County is to be held on Wednesday, November 25th, 2020, at the Starland County Administration Building in Morrin, Alberta, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Reeve:
Steve Wannstrom

Chief Administrative Officer:
Shirley Bremer